HOLLYWOOD | SCREEN-STAGE-RADIO | BROADWAY

# VARIETY

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# BEER IS LICKING LIQUOR

## Weeding Out Dead Pans on Air in Favor of Television's Personalities

The big radio chains, according to good info, are about to have a general housecleaning among talent of the air. NBC and CBS are about to make the move which will eliminate many people from their mikes after long association with chain broadcasting.

The move is said to be an advance preparation for what is expected to happen when both chains are broadcasting television along with the voice. There are many people working on the air for both at present who are okay for the duo broadcast, but some now broadcasting successfully are figured to drop their appeal when the air audience gets a look at them.

It is said that the main idea back of the clean-out move is to develop some new names for the air that will have eye appeal for television when it breaks. The radio chains figure to build up personality attractions between now and the time television will probably break in a big way.

Although both chains are not divulging anything regarding the move and what is most desired in the air talent of the future, it is said by inside sources that television is supposed to demand everything the stage does, plus a radio quality voice. This would indicate that the stage will probably supply a big part of the future talent to the see and hear air programs.

## Can't Strip for Rooftops; But It's Oke Elsewhere

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

Nude cultists in the city will have to watch their strip. The vag and lewd squad is paying particular attention to rooftops in the older business section, with some downtown sun-bathers deprived of any sun at all for 60 days as a result.

One catch on a Main-street hotel roof, when reclothed, was found to wear a big Stetson, bright pink silk bandana, leather shirt, riding pants and silver spurs. He told the judge he couldn't get enough sun to maintain his cowboy make-up in the normal course of biz on Main street. It wasn't oke with the judge, who sent the cowboy to jail.

On the other hand, the law in the Santa Monica beach district is going around in blue goggles. No issue has been raised about the nude bathing on the beaches to the north. People involved are likely to be found from pictures and other prominent activities.

The sunbath is still smart at exclusive and secluded resorts, beach and desert; also on toney apartment roofs in the western part of the city. Downtown it's just indecent exposure.

## Bad Times Hitting in Coin-Toss Joints for Singing Slingers, Too

Colored vaude singers, unable to secure immediate stage work, are becoming singing waiters. The man who can serve food or drinks singing is now in demand.

Singing waiters are making spots in Harlem and the Village more attractive to the white visitors.

Of two Negro vaude combos recently breaking up, three fell into singing hash slingers in downtown speaks.

On top of an almost invisible salary, they keep all the throw money. Some nights it's fairly good.

But depression has struck the coin tossers. What is flung to the floor can always be heard.

## MEXICAN GOVT. MAY BROADCAST OVER U. S.

Mexico is on the make for the American tourist trade by way of a radio ballyhoo on this side of the border. NBC has been asked for the use of its facilities for this purpose.

Among other things the Mexican government would like to pipe the Mexico City Police Band over the network. And, perhaps, later on a sample bullfight broadcast. Okay says NBC, if the Rio Grande republic is willing to pay the telephone line charges all the way around the circuit. The Mexican cabinet is now thinking it over.

## Agency in Depot

First ticket agency to locate in a railroad terminal was opened Friday (7) by Frank Frayer and Jimmy Murphy, in the Grand Central Terminal. Booth is located near the station's information stand.

Frayer and Murphy, previously treasurers at the New Amsterdam, are said to have an option for a similar agency for the Pennsylvania station. Only other similar agency previously located in a station had its window in an arcade nearby, but not in the terminal proper.

If clicking, F. & M. may try a communication service for tickets in over 100 of the N. Y. Central stops.

## Play Around Notables

A satirical revue built around characters, including Mayor Walker, George Bernard Shaw and Will Rogers, is being planned by Albert Wallace Dungan for October. Play will be called "Oh, Governor." Dungan wrote the book himself.

Lyrics by Phillip G. Heldman and music by George W. Kawalski.

## STRANGE CHANGE IN PUBLIC FANCY

### Good Beer at 25c Glass Becoming Universal Drink—Uncut Rye and Scotch at Lowest Bootleg Prices Growing Less Attractive

### MORE MONEY IN BEER

**Beer is licking whiskey right off the bootlegging booze map all over this country. Particularly is that so in the eastern section of the U. S. at present.**

**This strange change in the fancy of the drinking public is explained by good beer, according to those who know the most on the whole liquor proposition. Within the past two years the breweries have replaced the former "needle" kind of beer with the beer the drinkers like. Some of the beer now dispensed is aged at least three actual months, it is said.**

**The switch in the drink taste has caused a slump in whiskey sales so sharply that no longer do the rum runners cut their whiskies, either scotch or rye. They can't sell what they have through lessened demand for booze. With whiskey prices also forced down under the same conditions, there's no money in cutting either, through the cost of the quantity of raw alcohol necessary to cut.**

There's more money to be made in beer handling say the dealers. Half barrels of beer, now selling at $9.50, are alleged to return a profit of $7. each. These half barrels are liquid, not in bottles, and ready for the draught bar. Each half barrel will yield from 110 to 120 glasses, usually sold at 25c. pe glass.

In the pre days a full barrel of beer sold from the brewery at $18. In that ratio, figuring that the current half barrel is really but of eight gallons and that there are 62 gallons to a full barrel, the present full barrel take for the beer floating around in the half (eighth) barrel is about $140.

Beer has gained such headway in popular favor that the entire east is zoned by the mobs. It's a pretty flimsy brewery nowadays valued at under a million dollars. Brewery owners are reported hoarding profits so rapidly their cash reserves must find an outlet. It's the high profit

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## —Or Else

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

One of the film colony's bootleggers is offering his stuff in case lots for $10 down and $10 per week.

And if the customers refuses to keep up the instalments says the 'legger confidentially, he'll wish he had paid in full.

## Synced Music in Play Having 22 Scenes and Wanting Film Effect

Legit, borrowing film technique in production through scene and stage tricks, will go a step further this fall in a show due for production using synchronized music. Play is "Two Seconds," by Elliott Lester, which William Stephens and Irving Lande are to produce.

There are 22 scenes, each with a distinctive musical accompaniment. Music is so arranged as to blend with the scene changes to enhance effect.

Two successive scenes, as examples, show in the first a generator and then two riveters, with the hum of the generator graduating to the riveters' racket.

## 27 STRAIGHT RAINY WEEK ENDS IN LONDON

London, Aug. 10.

For the 27th consecutive week end it rained here.

Theatres did well with grosses zooming.

Picture houses in London did exceptionally good trade on Sunday.

## Reno Lawyers Slap New Rule on Outside Talent

Reno, Aug. 10.

With Reno's lawyer population growing at the rate of four or five a month, the home boys, who believe the divorce racket should be controlled by local talent, decided this week to put the screws on visiting lawyers.

Up to this week a lawyer in good standing from any other state could ask for admission to the Nevada bar after spending three months here. Consequently, Reno now has about 150 lawyers and near lawyers scrambling for the divorce trade.

State bar association looked the situation over and decided that the vistiors must be in Reno six months before asking for a permit and the Supreme Court okayed the order. So the separation industry will now gain new talent only half as fast.

## New Salary Low

Hitting a new low in legit actors' salaries, a player in a current Broadway production doing a principal role is drawing $10 as his weekly wage. Last year, extras in "An American Tragedy," revival, were said to be drawing $10 for walk-on jobs.

New $10 low came about when the cast took salary reductions about a week ago. Show is said to be due for the road Labor Day, too.

## Flying Circuses Not in the Money, Barnstorm Boys Crying the Blues

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Aviation meets and circuses are taking heavy brodies throughout the middle west. Latest and most distinctive floppo of them all was the show put on locally by the American Legion Aviation Post No. 651, with several rubber checks listed among the rueful results—for the participants. Chief of the mourning crew was National Broadcasting Company, holding a bouncer to the amount of $2,400 exchanged by the promoters for the personal appearances of the round-the-worlders, Post and Gatty.

Same event had Tex Rankin and Dorothy Hester, stunt flyers of national note, who took the meet's financial nosedive philosophically, as well as their stretchy end of it.

Flying enthusiasts are plenty worried over the National Air Races starting here Aug. 28. There may be a big comedown in attendance as compared to last year's show. These observers say that besides the decided loss of interest in stunt flying apparent throughout the country, the coming meet lacks the large number of international contestants and the army and navy maneuvers which were present a year ago, important factors.

It's been a tough summer thus far for the barnstorming boys, and they're crying the blues. Price slashing and undercutting, resulting from the stiff competition among them, is killing the short-haul cruising racket, admit these vagabond taxi airmen.

Procedure of the barnstormers is to pick out a field not far from the outskirts of midwest cities, particularly near the main state or U. S. highway, and attract a crowd through a series of the more thrilling type of plane stunts. The flyer, after he has collected enough spectators to satisfy his purpose, lands his plane and puts on his pitch to the surrounding throng, offering to take them up at so much per.

Passenger takings aren't what they used to be either, wail the barnstormers. Last year's minimum of $5 per 15-minute to half-hour ride has this season been chiseled down by the competitive cutrating process to a two-spot maximum. Some of the barnstormers are even selling their spare seats at a penny a pound per rider.

## TELEVIZING PRIZE FIGHT

### Benny Leonard and Johnny Dundee May Be First 3-Rounders Over Air

To show what television will be able to do in the future with prize fights, CBS will broadcast a three-round battle over its television station Aug. 13. One of the battlers will be Benny Leonard; other will probably be Johnny Dundee, although Dundee isn't yet set.

Flights will be in three rounds, each round the regulation three minutes. Entire broadcast, including announcements, fights, etc., will run 30 minutes.

CBS's television studio is almost the size of a fight ring.

# Metro Going for Original Stories; Previously Biggest Play Buyer

In future Metro will lean heavier to originals for its front-line stars, going afield if necessary to bring in writers on contracts calling for specified number of stories rather than under a weekly wage. The writers will be hired to turn out stories with designated stars in mind.

First signed under the new plan, marking Metro's move away from recognized plays and novels as material, is the English Frederic Lonsdale, who comes over to write an original for Norma Shearer, her first, and two for Robert Montgomery.

The Lonsdale contract is reported calling for a stipulated amount for each of the three stories. His entrance into Metro to do originals after writing for Sam Goldwyn is significant in view of some of the high-salaried writers Metro has in the past placed under contracts calling for weekly salaries.

An original for Miss Shearer will be a distinct departure. Her "Free Soul" and "Let Us Be Gay" were plays, while "Divorcee" and "Strangers May Kiss" were from novels, the rights of which set Metro back large amounts.

### First for Garbo

Greta Garbo, in line also for original stories, has had the benefit solely since talkers of known plays and novels. Marion Davies, Joan Crawford and William Haines have been also provided with a majority of plays.

No other studio has stayed so far away from originals for its stars up to now as Metro. The company has been the biggest play buyer in the field and paying the top prices, outbidding all others as a rule.

## Par Trying to Keep Marlene Dietrich Quiet

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Paramount's publicity department, with attorneys, is handling all statements from Marlene Dietrich, her husband and Josef Von Sternberg, following Riza Royce Von Sternberg's (ex-wife) $600,000 alienation and libel suit against Miss Dietrich.

Dailies ballooned the story when first breaking, but are now hesitant on the publicity angle, with Par's open attitude toward unfavorable publicity, first indicated in the Clara Bow stories, puzzling them.

Studio is having a tough time keeping Miss Dietrich from talking for herself.

## Paul at Pathe's

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Val Paul succeeds Harry Poppe as Pathe production manager.

Studio department heads are now almost 100% from Charles Rogers' previous independent staff, being worked into the Pathe organization slowly.

## "Marcheta" 1st for Dix

"Marcheta," Richard Dix's next big film, goes into production in October.

This means that the Dix pictures have been switched, "Frontier," originally slated to get underway first, now not set for the camera until January.

Similarity of "Frontier" and "Cimarron" was given as the reason with releases too near if "Frontier" was produced earlier.

### Lonsdale Coastward

Frederick Lonsdale left Friday (7) for the coast.

Lonsdale was accompanied by Leland Hayward.

Happiness is the one thing in life you can't afford to postpone.

MR. AND MRS. JACK NORWORTH
130 West 44th Street
New York

## Extra Girl's Contract

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Rochelle Hudson, taken from the extra ranks by Radio Pictures six months ago, has her contract renewed.

Actress is finishing "Sal of Singapore."

## Coast Sees Ulterior Price Lift by Lewis On an Early Story

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Universal has substituted "West of Topeka," an original by Jack Lloyd, for Sinclair Lewis' "Prairie Gold" on its new program. The Lewis story was listed, having been made as a silent, but Lewis put the price up to census figures when approached for the talker rights, and the deal promptly flopped.

Lewis was supposed to be willing, but since awarded the Nobel prize, he is reported as not anxious to have "Gold," one of his early efforts, dug out and re-exhibited to the public.

Slim Summerville and Zasu Pitts will be featured in the Lloyd story.

## U Tests Circus Girl For Tom Mix Series

Chicago, Aug. 10.

With an eye to the possibility of using her in the Tom Mix series, Universal took a screen test of Yvonne LaBois here, with Charlie Ford of the "Daily News"-Universal reel at the camera.

Miss LaBois figured as a likely, due, besides the regulation s.a., to her horsemanship, having been with several circuses recently as a trick rider.

## Option on "Find"

Following a test, United Artists has an option for an exclusive film contract with Aleeta Freel, discovered in stock in New Jersey but selected by Brock Pemberton for what will be her first Broadway legit try, "Three Times the Hour," to be done this fall.

Sam Goldwyn, negotiating for Miss Freel's services for pictures, will not want her until next May.

## Swanson Arriving

Arriving Friday (14) on the "Aquitania" Gloria Swanson is expected to stop over in New York only long enough to get her breath before leaving for the coast.

Undergoing a minor operation abroad, the star was forced to postpone passage back, her picture meanwhile suffering a delay. "Tonight or Never" was to have gone into production Aug. 1.

## SAILINGS

July 31 (Capetown to London), Jessiman and Robbins (Edinburgh Castle).

Aug. 4 (Sydney to San Francisco), Janette Gilmore (Sonoma).

Aug. 6 (New York to Hollywood), George Levy (Pres. Hoover).

Aug. 6 (New York to Bremen), Willem van Hoogstraten, M. F. Murphy (Stuttgart).

Aug. 7 (Capetown to London), Angela Guilberte, Jack and Sylvia Kellaway, London Repertory Co., (Winchester Castle).

Aug. 7 (New York to Paris), Mollie Picon, Jacob Kalich, Benito Peryo (Europa).

Aug. 8 (London to New York), Colin Clive (Aquitania).

Aug. 12 (London to New York), Maurice Browne (Majestic).

Aug. 14 (Paris to New York), Al Woods, Max Gordon, Claire Luce (Bremen).

Aug. 19 (New York to London), Henry McRae, Norman Lacey (Aquitania).

Aug. 25 (Paris to Buenos Aires), Carr Brothers and Betty, Rosie Moran, Barbette (Almazova).

Sept. 4 (Paris to New York), Lily Damita (Ile de France).

WILL MAHONEY

The New York "Graphic" said: "Most of the comedy was furnished by that mad, dancing buffoon, Will Mahoney. I never tire of seeing this chap."

Direction
RALPH G. FARNUM
1560 Broadway

# Roping Players Into Ciggie Ads Through Fan Mag

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Race of cigarette manufacturers for endorsements from motion picture players has one of the fan magazines using a padded cudgel to get the endorsements. Publisher was promised a heavy ad campaign if a sufficient number of players agree to support this particular brand of fumo.

Fan mag recently sent out questionnaires to the celebs with queries as to the players' particular cig favorites. Promise to the publicity departments who got the blanks filled was that the information would be kept confidential.

Since then an agent for an ad concern has been canvassing the players who reported and has been getting permission for endorsements. This agent casually points out that as the fan mag is back of the campaign the players can't afford to offend.

Quite a few of the actors have agreed to the endorsements on this theory, but undercover are burning at the methods used.

# Easing In To Hollywood

**By Jimmie Durante**

Hollywood, Aug. 7.

I'm sittin' on the set in a chair marked "Director, KEEP OFF," after spending a tough morning making "long" and "close shots" of the first three "sequences," of which we made four "takes" and "printed" three as the fourth "sound track" didn't register.

(How's that for learnin' in a week, eh?)

I'm in the midst of a "shot" that's supposed to end in a "fadeout" when Sam Woods, my director, says "Cut," and Johnnie Waters, his issistant, come over to me and says that a mugg on "Variety" would like to see me.

The cameras stopped turning, the arc lights stopped burning, and I started learning that my heart was yearning for my old Kentucky home way down . . . (Oh, pardon me.)

Where was I? A mugg wanted to see me. Well, I goes over, and he tells me he wants a story of my first week in Hollywood. I asks him if it's for publication, and when he says "Yes, in 'Variety'," I asks him if that wouldn't hurt my standing in the literary world, as the only two articles I write a year are published in "The Business Men's Forum" and "Snappy Stories." He says no, it wouldn't, as "Variety" is unique. Also I says that I'd do an article for 20c a word provided no one cut any words on me.

By this time the mugg realizes I must be somebody, so he starts using tact. The more tact he uses the more assuming I gets, but he passes up a golden opportunity and blurts out that he won't pay any money.

### The Story

I says, "Wait a minute, you don't know the story you're missin'. Let me give you an idea of it. Here goes" . . .

As you know, I had a hectic trip aboard the S. S. "California" via Panama Canal, as the crow flies, and landed July 11 at San Pedro on a very drab morning with 2 trunks, 22 valises and a brief case, that is, for a party of six.

On board ship I'd received a telegram saying that a large celebration was planned for me, and that Gus Arnheim and his orchestra of 26 men would be playing for me on the dock.

When I steps off the gangplank all there was was a piccolo player playing "California, Here I Come" in E flat. I was humiliated. He said the rest of the band must have overslept. So I waits around for a couple of hours. Finally a guy with a baton shows up to lead me to a taxi.

### Bad Guess

This leader turns out to be Van Pelt of the M-G-M publicity department, and he's got a cameraman with him. I'm thinkin' the camera-

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## Lord's 100% Character

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Phillips Lord (Seth Parker) who is starring in "Other People's Business" at Radio, bars profanity in his presence on the lot. Proving a tough problem for some of the grips and juicers who are accustomed to give vent to their feelings when things go wrong.

Lord lives up to the Parker character and writes hymns for an eastern publishing house in his spare time.

## Bancroft's $100,000 Per Film in Agents' Suit

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

George Bancroft is guaranteed $100,000 a picture for three pictures a year, it develops from George Frank and Scott Dunlap's commission suit on his Paramount contract for $10,000 so far accruing. This is computed on Bancroft's first picture, now in work, which guarantees him $75,000 plus an additional $25,000 as the minimum share of the profits at 25% of the net. The 25 grand is charged against the 25% whereas the $75,000 is a flat stipend.

Same agents, through Charles Kenneth Feldman, are suing Raymond Guion from legit, for $800 so far accruing on Guion's Par termer at $1,000 weekly for 40 weeks.

## Thorpe in Demand

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Jim Thorpe, once an athletic idol, but forced to dig ditches when he landed in Los Angeles, is again in demand.

The Indian lately finished a football serial at Universal and now Paramount is negotiating for his services in "Stadium," Par's contribution to the glorification of the gridders.

## Demand for Mary Nolan Cancels Her Trip Abroad

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Mary Nolan arrived here last week for a comeback in pictures after canceling her European trip.

She has been offered a part in RKO-Pathe's "Mystery Ships" and received a bid for a termer from Columbia.

# Pashy Premiere

**By Leonard Levinson**

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Scene: Forecourt of the Padoga theatre. Pavement is carpeted in camelias with orchids strewn over them. From the sidewalk to the entrance of the house is a canopy decorated in silk and tulle, spangled with yellow diamonds. Overhead are 15 blimps, spraying Coty's Chypre on the masses. A 200-piece orchestra on the roof of the building opposite is playing a specially composed symphony.

Martial law has been declared and three companies of the regular army are patrolling the streets. No car costing less than $15,000 is permitted within the premiere sector and each is preceded by an army tank. Standing room within a block of the theatre is selling for $2.50 and you must have a pull to meet the speculators.

### A 500,000-Watter

A complete broadcasting station has been built at the theatre with a 500,000-watt transmitter. The program is going direct to every home in the United States, Canada, Mexico and San Salvador. Standing before the mike, which is encrusted with square-cut diamonds, is Geoffery Eldzell, official announcer for all these events.

Eldzell: "And now, ladies and gentlemen of the radio audience, we are assembled here in Hollywood to pay homage to Abe Eppis, titanic executive of Malignant Pictures, whose super-epic of the talking screen, "Coats for Women," is about to be unreeled for the first time.

"Every prominent personage in America is here tonight. They are pouring out of their cars. Ah, who is this I see? Well, if it isn't my little friend, that lovely little star, Gussie Phfft. Come here, Gussie, and say a few words to your friends of the air."

### Phfft Says "Dandy"

Miss Phfft: "Hello, friends of Radioland. I'm so glad to be here with you tonight. I wish you could all be here with me to enjoy the picture, for I know it's gonna be just dandy. Goodbye, friends of Radioland."

### Here's Horace Feathers

Eldzell: "And that, folks, was little Gussie Phfft, sending her greetings over the air. And who is this approaching? None other than Horace Feathers, the well-known leading man. Step over to the mike, Horace, and say a few words to the folks of Radioland."

Mr. Feathers: "Greetings, friends of the radio. There is sure a mob here tonight—one of the finest openings I've ever seen. I wish you were here to enjoy it, too. I wanna congratulate my friend, Abe Eppis of Malignant, and wish him all the luck in the world with his new picture. Good night, friends of Radioland."

Eldzell: "Friends, that was Horace Feathers, the famous actor, just now, saying hello to all of you. And who is that stepping out of the

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## Davies Getting Polly After European Trip

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

"Polly of the Circus," old stage play formerly done silent by First National, will be made in the fall by Metro.

Marion Davies may star in this on her return from Europe, around Sept. 1.

## KENNEDY MEGS AGAIN

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Ed. Kennedy, featured lately by RKO-Pathe in "Average Man" series of shorts, will be handed a megaphone by that company. It will be his first directorial start since talkers.

Kennedy will direct as his first "Blondes by Peroxy," a Louis Bartel short written by Ewart Adamson.

## Breaking Up Vacash

Sylvia Sidney has been notified by Sam Goldwyn to be prepared to return to the coast and make retakes in "Street Scene."

She is just finishing her first week of what was announced as a month's vacation.

### Clive in "Frankenstein"

Universal has picked Colin Clive for the lead in "Frankenstein."

Bela Lugosi had been considered.

# WRITERS WELDING UNIONS

## Adam Won Eve by a Rib in Eden, but—In Hollywood the Ribbers Ruin You

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

The rib which Adam lost during his siesta in Eden is now in the hands of Hollywood, which community is now gleefully using it to prod its members into fits of rage, hysteria, white-hot anger and black-cold despair. Hollywood has become so filled with ribbers that even mergers which materialize are beginning to be regarded cynically as playful pranks of an idle mind.

Even though you can't tell your best friend, you can rib him to distraction—and everybody soon becomes a ribber in self-defense. It's the Hollywood manner with a vengeance.

Scores of players and studio executives have received condoling phone calls from friends, asking what they have in mind now that the studio has decided to let their options pass like puffs of smoke. In a town built upon rumors and so full of underground grapevines that citizens trip all over themselves, a rumor is as authentic to the average studio worker as a telegram from the boss himself. Employes who receive these phone calls feel their hearts skip three beats and wonder if the city will furnish free milk for the babes at home.

But the phone call is just a rib from the best friend. All for a laugh—heh, heh.

### Practical Jokes

The Hollywood influence, as usual, is spreading. In San Diego they now have a lady who calls housewives and tells them their husbands have just been killed in respective automobiles accidents. Will they please rush to the emergency hospital at once—heh, heh?

The guest of honor at a typical Hollywood party is nailed before he finishes his soup. If he lets them call him a bum in eight languages and holds up his chain for more he's a swell guy. If he pouts, they call him a bum in 12 languages. His feet are so full of clay the hostess hates to see him walk into the house.

Success is greeted with a slap in the face. Having slaved through the years to make something of himself in pictures, the gent who reaches the top is called aside and confidentially told that everybody says he's gone Hollywood.

"You can't afford to give your old pals the hi-hat," murmurs the confidant. "Some day they'll be up and you'll be down—and then what? You're bound to hit the skids some day, friend. Tough luck."

Anyone who approaches a group with a cheery hello is laying himself wide open to a mess of cold deck. It's a laugh for Hollywood to see his face drop when the mob ignores him. A minutes later all arms will be around the discomfited individual.

Just for a laugh, old pal. Hollywood loves its ribbing.

### All-American Heels

Within the colony has been organized the All-American Heels club, whose members are elected by an august body sitting upon cynical pedestals and looking down upon the Hollywood scene. If a member of the Heels election committee leaves the room during a session he is likely to find his name on the list of Heels when he returns.

Laugh and the world laughs back at you—heh, heh.

"I saw your wife and son at the Ambassador last night. Nice looking boy, and he sure seems to love his mother. What, no son?"

"You're taking on weight. If you could only see yourself from the back——"

"I hear your picture's a wow—in spots."

"Nice little apartment you have here. You can't be paying over $75—can you?"

"So you're going with Gertrude now, eh? Nice, sweet girl—at least that's what all the boys say."

"I hear they're sending you back to the stage wrapped up in retakes. Don't feel bad—even the big ones flop here."

A rib united Adam and the girl friend, but it splits many a Hollywood family. If it weren't all in fun it would be tragic.

You're a flop; you're through; your wife is talking divorce behind your back. You're hi-hat, low-brow and athletically footed. Your friends are friendly because they know you're on the skids and want to make it easy for you.

Sit in a breakaway chair; drink your coffee with a collapsing spoon; eat soup biscuits. Somebody has to be a chump.

Everyone else is too busy ribbing.

### The Bouncer

Burbank, Aug. 10.

Studio layoffs have silver linings for some people.

Among those out in the Warner-FN slough was Lew Holtzendorf, studio cop.

He is now chief of police of the city of Burbank.

## FOX LIMITING MALE LEADS' POUNDAGE

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Fox, enemy of avoirdupois in its players, now will use clauses in its actor contracts keeping the weight of its male stars to a set figure. First of the clauses is in the ticket of James Dunn, who must remain below 157 pounds to stay on the payroll.

Limiting the weight of the femmes is not new, but this is the first time a picture company has attempted to regulate the poundage of its male players.

Dunn is currently three pounds on the safe side, but recently was seven notches on the other side. A reminder of the contractual agreement had the player going for a diet and plenty gym work.

Spencer Tracey got the invite several weeks ago to take some off, although such a clause is not in his contract. With option time coming around he took off 11 pounds.

Same studio recently told its femme Spanish players that unless they dropped some poundage they would find themselves outside looking in.

## L. A.'S PROPERTY-POOR ELITE DUCK SHERIFF

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Biggest poverty howlers here are those who bought real estate during the boom years and now are out borrowing to keep the property from going to the sheriff.

In earlier days everybody in pictures loaded up on real estate, many making heavy profits on short time turnovers.

Real estate is impossible to get rid of these days, but the owners are hanging on hoping that eventually it will be a profitable venture again.

## Another Picture Club Makes Shorts for Cash

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Following the Masquers and Dominoes, local social-theatrical organizations, the Thalians will make a series of shorts through Bryan Foy Productions for Universal release.

Thalians are a mixed organization of the younger players, whereas Masquers and Dominoes are 100% stag-femme respectively.

## TRIPLE-THREAT PLAY AT FILMS

**Unable to Get Satisfaction Through Academy Sessions with Producers, Screen Writers' Guild Draws Closer to Dramatists and Authors — Tri-Union Agreement Could Stop Picture Material at Sources**

### STRIKE WEAPON

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

**There is every indication that Hollywood screen writers are fortifying themselves for a real fight with the producers should the current confabs with the bosses prove as ineffective as the writers anticipate.**

**Outstanding indication is a move by the Screen Writers' Guild to have two slates in its election of officers this year. One slate is to comprise old line members of the guild and the other containing members of the guild who are active in the Academy. Latter slate is figured to get the election.**

Significance of this is that the producer-writers' pow-wow idea was an Academy proposition and more or less conducted under Academy jurisdiction. With the Academy comprising producer as well as writer members, feeling is that the present writer-producer sessions could never be effective, being virtually a house divided and with no weapons of redress for the writers should the producers turn down their demands.

With the present leaders of the agitation now in the Academy holding principal offices in the Screen Writers' Guild, belief is that the demands coming from an organization solely controlled by writers could carry weight.

Comparison of the present condition is as though trades union workers were trying to battle for wage adjustments with their employers, through an organization of

(Continued on page 43)

## GOLDWYN AND SHUMLIN ICY AS LATTER SCRAMS

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Herman Shumlin and Samuel Goldwyn are no longer that way about each other, with Shumlin's vamping from Hollywood and Sam's deflated opinion of the legit producer as a director of dialog. The U. A. bunch isn't wild about Shumlin's contribution to "Unholy Garden" (Colman), which is being remade in some sequences.

Shumlin's contract with Goldwyn is unexpired and it is believed locally that Goldwyn will not be amenable to okaying any future film connections Shumlin might have, such as a film-stage production hook-up. For straight pictures, Shumlin almost from the gong was fed up.

"Garden," chiefly supervised by Shumlin and Arthur Hornblow, Jr., Goldwyn's chief production aide, is now under Hornblow's o.o. to doctor things up.

Goldwyn and Hornblow are also devoting their personal attention to almost everything that follows. "Greeks Had a Word For It," with Ina Claire, Carole Lombard and Joan Blondell, Lowell Sherman directing, is in rehearsal, and "Arrowsmith" (Colman's next) starts rehearsing next week. John Ford is megging the latter. Colman goes on a long holiday thereafter, with two more for Goldwyn to go.

## Door Keys, Pajamas and Much Else Heretofore in Pictures Affected by Hays' Picture Production Code

After seven months of trial the Hays Production Code is declared out of the experimentative class and the film industry's most important permanent institution.

The fact that on an average only one out of every 10 features escapes criticism, necessitating re-takes or eliminations, has put the industry on a pre-release self-censoring plane admitted greater in ratio and severity than ever has been exercised by official shearing boards.

Since the code went into execution in January last, short subjects, the worst censor offenders, are declared to have shown the most marked moral improvement.

### Instances

Specific instances, for the first time since the publication of the code, are cited.

Where a man putting his hand on a woman's leg was ruled out in a feature produced recently the same was okayed in another. Reason: Treatment, one being a melodrama and the other a comedy.

Door keys were ordered out of two pictures. In both instances the keys "suggested." Pajamas have felt the Code's hand. Conversation about them over the phone in feature was ordered deleted.

The word "pansy" cannot be used

(Continued on page 43)

## Coast's New Hideaway

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Picture colony is swinging over to a new hideaway for its off time. Now it's Del Monte on the Monterey peninsula near San Francisco.

Currently there are Dolores Del Rio, Irene Dunne and Mary Astor, as well as Ethel Barrymore.

## 15 News Outfits Rag Studio P. A's Daily for Tips

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Studio press agents are the most harried lot in the world right now. With two daily wires services, three daily trade papers, five daily local columns, four daily syndicated columns and one daily feature wire service to supply with news, the p. a.'s are dizzy.

A total of 15 news services to be supplied and all howling for exclusive stories. With the present lull in production there aren't many more than that emanating from Hollywood's combined studios.

In addition to those mentioned there are also seven weekly syndicated services, seven weekly trade papers and four weekly wire syndicates to be fed.

It's getting so bad now that some of the studio contact men are dodging the news hounds.

### News Leaks

Biggest bones of contention between the news gatherers and the studio press departments are the studio news leaks. Most of the news hounds have some tipoff contacts, and when the others see these stories in print the studio p. a. must stand for the howl they set up.

Most any studio contact man can spend eight hours at his desk doing nothing but talking to the newspaper people.

News gatherers, too, are having their own private horror over the scarceness of news, due to the number of publications in the field. Boys and girls are all yelling about the p. a.'s playing favorites.

Studio men are willing to admit that they don't know where they stand. If each studio could manage to dig up 15 exclusive news stories each day their job would be rosy. As it stands, they're looking for sympathy.

## WANGER STANDING STILL

**Unable to Make Decided Move—Figuring on Cosmo Studio**

Despite reports of affiliations in independent picture productions, securing downtown financing and other matters, Walter Wanger appears to be standing still just at present. He is tied up by his newer Paramount contract which becomes effective Sept. 27.

Wanger is reported continuing negotiations for the Cosmopolitan studios in upper New York. They are Loew-owned. Wanger is said to be securing estimates on what may be required by the studios if he settles upon a deal for them with the Loew people.

Nothing has arisen to confirm stories of close business relations between Dave Selznick and Wanger,

## STAR TICKETS GROW LIGHTER

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Letting out contract players and rehiring them at lower salaries seems to be a general move in the studios. Metro's re-signing of Joan Marsh and Nils Asther are examples, both players being back on the lot two weeks after they were out.

John Boles' present uncertainty with Universal is a probable duplicate with U not willing to pass through another option at the old salary.

On the fence at Metro are Marjorie Rambeau and Ramon Novarro. Money angle figures with both, Miss Rambeau being retained on a week basis after her contract was dropped. In the case of Novarro his contract does not come up for several months, but it is understood the studio will dictate a shave in salary.

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# Fox Setting Up Pub-Adv as Distinct Division, Entirely Untrammeled, with Griswold as Fox V. P. Its Sole Head

Changes loom in the departmental structure of Fox Films that looks to completely change the present physical management system of that company without disturbing the personnel. This is indicated by signs pointing to an overhauling of the advertising and publicity department and the placing of that division on an important and independent footing comparable with the production, theatre and sales ends.

Under the plan the a. and p. division will become a separate unit of Fox's operation system without any interlocking supervision from the other division. Glen Griswold will head it as vice-president. Under him will be several lieutenants, picked from the company personnel, who will form an advertising counsel to the company. The decided change as far as can be learned was impelled by Harley L. Clarke, Fox pres.

Griswold came into Fox as v. p. in charge of public relations some months ago. That the official revamping of that unit is now being made may serve to show that Griswold is ready to take active control of the division.

Thus every p. a. link in Fox or its subsids come under his jurisdiction and away from any other authority that may have topped it somewhere in the company. It links the studio, theatre, vaude and film ends right to Griswold as the p. a. head. Latter in the setup, according to infor, the new division will have a chief assistant yet to be named who will direct in the field, while subordinate to this assistant will be the direct p. a. contacts wherever they may serve.

For this setup, it has been learned, Gabe Yorke, now chief of the advertising department at Fox West Coast, and formerly with Fox east, will return to New York to work with Griswold. That means a promotion for Yorke who under his new post will direct all the advertising and publicity for all Fox theatres everywhere. In the film end Glendon Allvine will be retained to counsel that job as far as possible. Under these two men and the general assistant to Griswold, which the latter has yet to name, the a. and p. division will function as a supreme body in its own field of endeavor for the company.

Yorke's promotion may mean that Bob Collier will succeed him as regional director on the Fox coast theatre end. Victor Shapiro, now in charge of the studio, according to present plans remains in that post.

The system may compel certain changes in the advertising agency connection of Fox, although that's not certain.

### On Its Own

From the outside the change looks important to consider from the angle that prior to initiation of the present plan the advertising and publicity division has been subject to control by some specific departmental or division head of the sales, production or theatre end in Fox to which the particular publicity might have been applied. Under the new plan the advertising department stands on its own to function as the public relations counsel for any and all operations of Fox with Griswold as the boss of that department.

Griswold formerly was editor of the Chicago "Journal of Commerce" and prior to this held the important post of business manager for the Cyrus K. Curtis publications which included N. Y. "Evening Post" and the Philadelphia "Public Ledger."

He has been with Fox since March, last.

Close observation of this new tack in Fox operation, which looks likely to be followed by other companies according to general info, sizes up to change the setup of other Fox divisions wherein the company's activities may be dissected into around 5 units of operations. These to comprise the production, story, sales, theatre and advertising units.

These units will operate independently in their own field in the industry, although co-operatively for Fox. The heads of these divisions or units to form a sort of supreme counsel for Fox activities with Winfield Sheehan sitting above and next to Clarke as first v. p. and general manager. Sheehan also heads production. This counsel including a p. a. rep to sit on all company confabs on policy and activity.

Jimmy Grainger heads the sales end, while the theatre or exhibition reps will likely take in both Oscar Oldknow and Harry Arthur, according to indications.

Yorke is expected to return to New York from the Coast in around 10 days or so when the first move in this big plan will probably get under way.

## BURBANK REOPENING PLAN

**Only One FN Writer Left—Studio Resumes Sept. 8**

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

None of the First National writers will be on the job under the new set-up with the exception of Walter DeLeon when Burbank resumes production Sept. 8. Warner directors also will be given preference over the FN meggers.

Writers on the Warner lot are Kubec Glasmon, John Bright, Harvey Thew, J. Grubb Alexander, Houston Branch, Julian Josephson, Maude Fulton and Joseph Jackson. All have assignments except Branch, who was to have been sent to England with the new Warner unit but who will not be permitted to work there, not being a citizen.

Josephson will write two stories for George Arliss as his first assignment.

## Wallis for England

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Hal Wallis, former co-executive in charge of First National production, will head the unit Warners is sending to London to make its quota pictures there.

Some 15 productions are planned.

# FOX WC-UA DEAL NOW ALL SET ON COAST

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Looks like Fox and United Artists achieved a draw as Fox has bought all U. A. product for Fox houses, east and west, while U. A. has turned over all United Artists theatres on the coast for Fox-W. C. operation. That makes the amity agreement reciprocal in value. Date is not known when F. W. C. begins operation of said houses.

Among the U. A. theatres let go to Fox West Coast operations are two in Los Angeles. Others are in around 11 or 12 California towns. Among these are Berkeley, Palo Alto, Englewood, Sacramento, Pasadena, Glendale, San Jose, El Centro, and Richmond.

The big conjecture around this twin deal is the position of the Hughes-Franklin Circuit of which Joe Schenk is v. p. The present Schenk negotiations by which the U. A. spots are being turned over to Fox operation may bespeak a similar eventuality occurring for the H-F outfit. So far, although once talked of, this has not come to pass.

In the present deal the United Artists own named theatre in downtown Los Angeles is excluded. That stays as is with Paramount operating. Probably to allow U. A. a deluxe show window of its own on the coast. The two L. A., houses that will be taken over by Fox are in the Wilshire avenue district.

## Lebedeff's Build-Up

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Due to femme preview squeals, Ivan Lebedeff is being aimed for stardom by Radio. His name will top "Happy Prince." Story is by Garriet Lloyd and has a Russian revolutionary background.

Richard Boleslavsky will direct.

**YORK and KING**
**Now in London**

"The history of the world is a record of hisses and kisses.
Some get more of the former and less of the latter, and some vice versa."

**JENIE JACOBS**
**REEVES & LAMPORT**

# PROBE BY GOV'T INTO SCREEN ADVERTISING

Government is stepping into the screen advertising situation. During the past two weeks representatives of the Federal Trade Commission have been making an inquiry in parts of the film industry that have been or are countenancing advertising on their screens.

That sale of tickets at a box office where paid advertising is a part of the program may constitute unfair trade practice is the belief advanced by certain picture attorneys for the Government's latest interest in the industry.

The inquiry is chiefly concerned in the Allied States indie exhibs organization's plans to debut an advertising newsreel late this month. Strangely, it is observed, Abram Myers, a former Federal Trade Commissioner, himself, and one of the first to go on record against advertising screen material, will be one of the first required by the Government to give an account of his newsreel advertising plans, it is reported.

Paramount, it is revealed, has been able to show the Federal representatives a clean bill, having withdrawn suddenly and completely from the ad field, in which it was the biggest factor, about two months ago.

Warners, which pledged to do the same thing, so far as is known has not continued to turn out ads not under prior contracts.

Why big companies abandoned advertising on the screen is one of the first questions being asked by the Government men.

## "Variety" Selected by Hoyt's Australia as International Medium

Sydney, July 11.

Hoyt's Circuit, one of the largest in Australia, figures "Variety" is the only trade paper covering its requirements regarding overseas show biz. To this end it has made arrangements with "Variety's" local representative to supply the paper to the circuit's department heads and higherups.

Idea of Charles Munro and Sam Snider, who issued the order, is that officials must follow the film biz of the world. That departments carried by "Variety" are to be filed by Hoyt's theatre men is in the instructions.

Hoyt's controls theatres in every city in Australia.

"Variety" reaches Australia four weeks from its publication date.

As accredited circulation indication for any foreign paper, one copy traveling to that far off continent might be considered enough.

Hoyt's subscribed for 20 copies weekly on an annual basis.

That's news.

# 10c Top Picture House Has Little Chance, Is Filmdom's Belief, with 10c Exhib Meanest Showman Type

## BANKHEAD IN "CHEAT"

**Third Time for Story by Paramount —Pichel East to Join Cast**

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Irving Pichel is eastbound for "The Cheat" remake, which will be done with Tallulah Bankhead at the Long Island studio.

Story has twice been made as a silent by Par, in '15 and '23, with Havakawa and Fannie Ward in the earlier production. At that time there was considerable objection to an Oriental mistreating a European, and on the second try the character was made an Indian prince. That was not so acceptable, either, so on this encore the story will be changed to make the male lead an Occidental.

## Paramount's Marine Yarn Has Studio Execs Fidgety

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Paramount is worrying about "Come On Marines." Male lead, in the story was originally a deserter from the Marine Corps, but the studio figured there would be a kickback from the Marines and changed it to a civilian with the Marines as a background.

That lacking kick, the renegade Marine, is back in again with studio execs, sitting back wondering what will happen when the Marine

# NO BILLING BY PUBLIX OF F&M UNITS

Chicago, Aug. 10.

No billing is given Fanchon & Marco in conjunction with the first showing of an F-M stage unit in a Publix house. Unit is now at the Chicago theatre.

Neither has an announcement been issued by Publix in Denver, Minneapolis or locally of the shift in the Publix stage policy from its own produced stage units to the F-M Ideas. Nor has Fanchon & Marco issued an announcement. The Chicago theatre changed the title of the current unit from "Sketches" Idea to the "Pastels." Original title minus the F&M and Idea, will go back when the unit leaves town.

One act was removed from the incoming unit for the Chicago week and another turn substituted by the local Publix B&K management.

A review of the first F&M stage unit in Publix house (Chicago) appears under Film House Reviews in this issue.

## 'Whitey' Lands 2 Origs

Accepting two originals from him, one for George Bancroft, the other for Marlene Dietrich, Paramount has placed Edward A. Brown in its eastern story department. While the Bancroft story, "The District Attorney," will go to the Coast for production, the other, "The Devil Laughs," will remain east with Brown's first assignment a further development of that yarn.

Brown recently came on from the Coast after free-lancing as a writer. He's known by friends as "Brownie" and generally as the "Whitey" character of the Hollywood novel, "Queer People."

## HELEN MACK AS "BOW TYPE"

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Helen Mack, from the legit cast of "Subway Express," arrived today (Monday) under contract to Fox. No assignment, but it is understood the studio will seek to build her as a Clara Bow type.

Last resort competition that smudges the film industry, brands him as the meanest type of exhibitor because he is flopping and is trying to drag down his competitor with him, in most instances, is official filmdom's definition of the average theatre owner who sells all of his seats all of the time for a dime.

Today, it is estimated in authoritative parts, there are approximately 500 theatres in the U. S. which sell all tickets for 10c—no more or less. But, it is emphasized, only 50 of these have a permanent dime policy. The other 450, it is pointed out, in most cases are assets in their cities because that one day or night each week every seat is 10 cents gives a chance to attend enmasse.

At the same time the single day dime policy in its philanthropy and business getting from the poor doesn't lower the standards of the industry since rentals are kept up and competition is maintained at a liveable level.

### All Over

All-dime houses are not to be found in small towns. They exist only in cities, especially neighborhoods, where more often the competition is just as bitter as it is keen.

Three years ago it is estimated there were about 1,000 dime theatres in the U. S. When sound took hold seriously the house ante was so raised that the dimer either went out of existence or doubled the admission and put in a talker equipment.

During the last 18 months the dime policy has been slowly returning. But 50 out of 21,000 theatres in the U. S. doesn't augur well for the movement or its success, declare film spokesmen.

Why the dime exhib in most cases loses out sooner or later has sound economic reasoning, it is pointed out. His origination and motivation, also his mathematics, are thusly traced:

Two houses in the same drawing locality that were supported several years ago suddenly find pinches at their box office. The one who is getting it worse than the other figures thaat by slashing his admission he can get his competitor's business. He goes dime. At minimum figuring for a 500 seat house, it is estimated by those familiar with the figures, he can't get by with an overhead less than $50 daily. This figuring, incidentally, doesn't consider union projections of $20 for two each day, but a single outside operator at $5. It takes in $10 for a feature and $5 for a couple of short subjects. It narrows the building rent and the lights down to $15 per day. It boils down talker equipment dues to $5 daily.

A dime exhibitor traveling even at such a minimum overhead has to fill that house to capacity twice daily. That's the rub, it is pointed out by the exhibitor students. He doesn't in the majority of cases. His theatre, with few exceptions, is an experiment that pans cold in the long run especially if his 20c competitor snaps into it.

In the final analysis, the solons find it, if the location is good it is too expensive to sell at a dime. If the theatre is poorly located it won't draw anymore at a dime than for twice that.

A little show business and less cut throattery is the remedy suggested to dime proponents.

# DERR-SULLIVAN STILL HUGHES' FAIR-HAIREDS

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

Rumors that E. B. Derr and Charles Sullivan would leave Caddo are denied by Noah Deitrich, manager for Howard Hughes.

Derr and Sullivan, emigrees from Pathe, have supervised the halted air comedy, the Dove picture now cutting, and "Scarface," which is shaping up as another "Hell's Angels" for production time. Original shooting scheduled on "Scarface" was 39 days, 30 of them now gone and the film is not half completed.

# SPLITTING UP FOX CHAIN

## Cut Cost Training of Coast Indie Producer May Get Him with Majors

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Present economy wave in the studios has the recognized indie producers sitting on the doorsteps of major studios, hoping to crash the gates in some executive capacity.

Universal's engaging of Sam Bischoff as a supervisor and the report that Phil Goldstone goes to Paramount as P. B. Schulberg's assistant Nov. 1 are sunbeams in the indie producers' cloudy sky.

Studios are not unmindful that the indie producer has something to offer in the way of budget reductions. Several have been in conference at the major lots.

The indie's training is one of cuts. His production costs are always the minimum. By necessity he is a slave-driver and a hard bargainer. He tries to get $5 value for every dollar expended.

### Overhead Worry

With few exceptions, the modern indie producer has been a flop in major studios. First line production is usually his ruination. Studio overhead, consisting mostly of contract writers, players and directors, prove his undoing. As an indie he didn't know from overhead. On a major lot it's the first thing he learns.

Few ever conquer the nickel and dime routine. They think of everything connected with their picture in terms of cash or credit. Carrying this mental attitude with them to the bigger lots and it eventually licks them.

Two of the most lavish spenders on picture production today are former indie producers who were taken by the major lots through their reputations as indie producers. In both cases, as soon as they got into the majors they forgot their indie training and learned to spend money.

## Coast Claims Filmed Plays Outrank Legit

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Superiority of the screen over the stage as shown in transferring stage plays to film, such as "Street Scene" (UA) and "Five Star Final" (WB), is claimed on the Coast and rating considerable comment.

Comment is the reverse from that occasioned by the first showing of "Journey's End" last year when legit producers maintained that the picture was "only a translation of the stage play."

Embellishment of the screen versions comes from the camera treatment only, the studios sticking to the stage scripts and business.

## BIBLICAL SHORTS FIRM INTEREST HENRY FORD

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Reported locally that Henry Ford has become interested in the Academy of Religious Arts which plans to produce a series of Biblical talkers.

Project has several national church organizations behind it. Robert Anderson, who organized the academy, recently made a trip to Detroit to see Ford. Anderson is still in the east and, according to friends, has succeeded in interesting Ford to the extent that he has his personal representative in California looking over the set-up, with the idea of guaranteeing payment on sound and other studio equipment.

Academy has taken over the old Henry Lehrman studio in Culver City, where it has already produced two one-reelers.

### One-Man Control

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Studio prognosticators and inside execs admit that within the next six months the industry will witness a drastic upheaval on production methods.

The one-man control is deemed doomed and of the past with a new set-up of divided responsibility regarded as inevitable to the economic progression of picture production.

## UNIT PRODUCING PLAN GROWS ON COAST

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Organizing independent units similar to the Selznick-Milestone set-up is the current yen of major studio execs who have made a rep as producers.

Phil Goldstone, Benny Zeidman, Jack Bachman and others have announced their intentions to emulate the Selznick-Milestone combo.

None of them have any definite plans, outside of Bachman, who, in association with Morris Schlank, former quickie producer, will make "Penthouse Murder" from a novel by Samuel Spewack. They have engaged Thornton Freeland to direct.

Goldstone and Zeldman are planning trips east to find out how their idea is accepted.

Producers with former big studio affiliations figure that their reps will command attention from eastern money and first line releases.

## NEW FILM EVERY 2 WKS. ORDERED FOR TIFFANY

A studio without a head turning out features with the speed of a Ford plant is the policy which E. W. Hammons has set for Tiffany. Since Phil Goldstone was let out, orders have gone through that Tiff must spend its remaining $1,000,000 on pictures between now and November. This means, it was stated, that a feature must be ready for the cutting room every two weeks between now and snow time.

Bert Kelly, former Paramount booker, is in charge of Tiff's speed-up. He bears no other title than "studio contact man with the home office," but his duties are practically a complete take-over of the ones of which Phil Goldstone was relieved.

Other evidences of Hammons knitting together his picture interests is the filing of a California certificate of incorporation joining Educational and Metropolitan studios under the one corporate name of Educational Talking Pictures Corporation.

Bill Saal is also in a different light. It is now reported that he is L. A. Young's representative in Tiffany, succeeding the Detroit lawyer, Grant Cooke.

### Talent Scout West

Albert Parker, Fox's talent scout in the east, is leaving for the coast Friday (14) to look over the work of new players recently sent to the coast.

In the past three months Parker has signed 18 new faces to contracts.

He'll stay in Hollywood about two weeks.

## ALL HOUSES EAST DECENTRALIZED

**Divided Into Minor Units Independently Operated —Each Gen. Mgr. as Sole Operator—De Luxers in Separate Division — Fox-WC Its Own Unit—Oldknow and Arthur Over All in Authority**

**THE BUSINESS IDEA?**

Indications point to the decentralization of Fox Theatres, in the east. The move is revolutionary. It's the first big breakup of a major chain and from signs seemingly is aimed on a two-ply cause. These are for simplification of theatre operation and, secondly, economy of operation.

Back of the two reasons lies the original Fox aim as instituted in the industry by Oscar Oldknow and Harry Arthur for Fox strictly localized operation. Official announcement may be made this week.

The Fox group in the east which numbers something like 140 theatres and comprises what formerly was known as Fox Metropolitan

(Continued on page 60)

## 9 Philadelphians Named in Million Dollar Color Suit

Philadelphia, Aug. 10.

Nine Philadelphianas, including John J. McGurk, former president of the Stanley Company, and Charles Denby, Jr., lawyer and son-in-law of U. S. Senator David A. Reed, were sued for $1,000,000 damages in the U. S. District Court here Friday (7) for alleged failure to go through with the organization of a company for the manufacture of colored motion picture films.

Plaintiffs are the United Film Industries, Inc., of New York, which deals in the sale of colored film patents and processes and Hans von Fraunhofer, a broker in the same line of business.

The defendants, besides McGurk and Denby, are Ira M. Lowry, said to have acted as agent for the group; Walter L. Eckhardt, Bernard R. Cohn, Abe Sablosky, Harry O. Schwalber, Charles Segall and Lewis Sablosky. They are declared to have become interested in the project in 1928 of organizing a company to be known as the Wolff-Heide Photo-Chemical Corp., for the exploitation of colored film manufacture which was at that time exclusively invested in the Photochrom A-G of Switzerland.

After an interchange of the stock of one corporation for that of another, the defendants, it is claimed, eventually gained control of the Photochrom Corp., which had been dominated by United Film Industries, Inc., and then refused to go through with the agreement to finance a new company with the result, it is asserted, that the films were not put on the market as contemplated and the United Film Corp., sustained a loss of $1,000,000.

Though Denby, a former assistant U. S. District Attorney and a nephew of the late Edwin Denby, Secretary of the Navy, in the Harding administration, is named as a defendant in the suit, the part he played in the transactions is not specified in any way, but is asserted that he agreed with the others to finance a company to be organized to produce colored films.

## Dick Rowland Made Story Chief And Vice-Pres. of Fox Films

Richard Rowland goes with Fox to head that company's scenario department with the title of vice-president. It's the first time in filmdom a story head becomes a member of the corporation served. Looks like the story department may thus become a separate although affiliated angle of production but away from the studio influence.

It's said inside the story department of Fox's studio division has been the study of Harley L. Clarke almost since the latter's entry as president. His present action in taking on Rowland and providing the latter with a protecting title of importance lends its own outlook. Fox's story department and library have been the object of an intensive survey from the inside for many months.

Rowland formerly was with Par as story head but for a short time. There he instituted a story counsel in which the advertising and publicity staff chieftains participated. The same story counsel system will probably go for Fox under Rowland's ideas.

### Moved Quietly

No intimation that Rowland had left Par or was contemplating such a move was even known until his present hookup. It was then learned that Rowland and Par had severed connections shortly previous to his new contract with Fox.

So far as known Par does not intend to replace Rowland at the present. Fixed in Par's story department are A. M. Botsford and Russell Holman, both of whom formerly were in the Publix and Paramount advertising departments respectively.

For Rowland his latest connection with Fox sums up to his third company hookup in almost as many months. For a while, a few months back, he was in playing a chief role in the affairs of Tiffany. That was only for a brief spell. He then shoved over to Paramount.

Some months back Rowland was mentioned in connection with Pathe shortly before that company's sale to RKO. Rowland as an old timer in the film biz once headed First National before that company was taken oven by Warners. Earlier headed Metro.

Rowland, so far as understood, is to be the ultimate judge in story stuff or something like that for Fox. Whether that is to go literally is not known, but most likely he will sit as inside adviser to Harley L. Clarke on story material and production values of such story material.

Heretofore studio had charge of the story division with Al Lewis in charge. What the latter's position may be under the scheme of things cannot be known until Rowland assumes charge. Lewis, appointed by W. R. Sheehan, may stay on as Coast rep. of the division which Rowland heads.

## UNEMPLOYED TICKET SELLERS FOR WB AT 25%

Easton, Pa., Aug. 10.

At a divisional meeting of managers of eastern theatres of Warner Brothers, announcement was made that in all those cities where the Warners operate theatres, each manager has been instructed to establish a sales force from the unemployed. Those emergency salesmen will make a house to house canvass to sell tickets for the theatres and will be given 25% commission.

In addition, 8% of the tickets sold will be given to the community charity funds.

## APPEAL FOR NEW AD RATES FOR FILM FIRMS

Elimination of advertising shorts and sponsored product from filmdom's theatres by the major companies is calculated to find a reciprocal sentiment on the part of newspapers by removing the discriminatory rates that exist on theatre ads. Filmdom is now looking for equal consideration with other industries in newspaper ad rates.

That this move is on the way is indicated by information which points that Fox Film, by direct appeal from Harley L. Clarke, Fox president, this week will put that proposition up to the publishers of the country's newspapers. This appeal while primarily to be made on behalf of Fox Theatres will swing the angle of the entire industry.

The big angle in favor of the film companies aside from the discriminatory tack which prevails without logical business reason, is that filmdom by cutting out the advertising shorts which could have meant millions in revenue to theatres, and a consequent inroad on the newspapers' advertising business generally, the same as Radio advertising has achieved, is deserving of newspaper consideration.

The Fox appeal will be made on strictly business lines. It will be presented to the various publisher associations for consideration by their members. It is argued that the Fox Theatres management was the first to ban advertising shorts and films from its programs. Fox in taking the stand, argues against publicity space preference at any time for films except where newspapers judge the film stuff worthy of news space.

Prior to this Clarke appeal the industry, led mainly by Paramount, was instrumental in adjusting such rates in particular localities. New York and Boston being among others. However, so far as known except for a few spots the theatre advertising rates still run higher than the display advertising or classified rates for other businesses and industries. The Fox appeal is aimed to put the theatre rates in the dailies on a par basis with the display rates of other businesses.

## Bischoff, Tiff's Prod.

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

With Sam Bischoff now Tiffany's production head, succeeding Phil Goldstone, resigned, Harry Henigson assumes Bischoff's former productions.

Pictures are all budgeted at $100,000 each.

## DeForest Organizing Film and Radio Cos. In Mexico for Gov't

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Dr. Lee DeForest leaves here next week for Mexico City where he will organize a picture production unit and a company for manufacture of radio and talker equipment.

Understood DeForest is being subsidized by the Mexican government, which is anxious to build up radio business. Picture angle is supposed to be DeForest's own idea.

### Rose Hobart Opposite March

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

After patching up its differences with Rose Hobart, Universal is loaning that player to Paramount for "Dr. Jekyl and Mr. Hyde" opposite Frederick March.

# With Chains Inter-Buying Product, Without Any Big Distrib Selling Away, Indies Not in Happy Spot

Forced into his tightest spot in his colorful career through the most extensive exchange of picture product by producer-distributors with chains yet on the record, the independent exhibitor is facing the coming season with mixed concern. For the first time the indie account is going to have to scrape hard to find enough product to last him a year.

With but few exceptions the major programs of all the large companies has been set or are about to be written with the representative chains. At the same time the coming season looms as the first where it is improbable any distributor will sell away from chains to independent accounts in an attempt to force the big buyers rather than gobble up everything stray in the way of indie business around.

Presumption that if waiting too long little of the major product now available will be left, is forcing quick sales with a lot of the indies who a month or two ago declared they were either to get lowered rentals or would outwait the distrib on buys. Within the past week any number of indies have signed after a lot of stalling, distribs meanwhile blanketing the country on major chain deals.

### Line-ups

Publix has or is taking its own company product, Paramount, in addition to Metro, United Artists, Fox, Warner Bros. First National, RKO-Pathe, and Radio, a record variety of brands for that largest of chains.

Another strong buyer, Warner Bros. has or will have their own WB and FN programs in addition to Radio, Paramount, Universal, RKO-Pathe and Columbia, with Metro out.

Fox and Fox-West Coast have Fox, Metro, Radio, RKO-Pathe, Universal, Paramount and United Artists. The Fox houses may also go for sizeable commitment on Columbia.

The fourth of the big chains, Radio, has its own and RKO-Pathe in addition to Warners, FN, Universal and Paramount.

Loew has its own product, Metro, in addition to Paramount, Fox, UA and Warner-First National for coverage, with a Universal deal now being worked out.

It's the widest mixing of product among the various chains that has ever taken place, virtually sewing up some situations for indies so tightly that unless pictures are taken for runs subsequently to chains, that involving usual chain protection, the smaller operator will have to load up on independently-made features.

Last season, following the end of a long stage of chain absorption, it was tough enough for the average indie but in the face of inability last year of the distribs and chains to get together on such a friendly plane for exchange, many indies found no trouble buying away.

## E. Nugent Awarded Full Pay for Unplayed Part

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Before the actors' branch of the Academy, Elliott Nugent was awarded the full $3,750 he claimed from Universal for an engagement in "Ex-Bad Boy." U's defense was that Nugent was working at F.N. at the time and it couldn't get him.

It was held for the actor that he was ever-ready to start.

## Monogram Keeps Lot

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

After curtailment of production for a brief period, the Bob Steele horse operas are being continued on the Monogram lot by Trem Carr. These are in addition to the program of 32 indies which Carr is making for Monogram Pictures.

W. R. Johnston, prexy of Monogram Pictures Corp., has the Beechwood and Sunset lot under lease for another year with some $50,000 worth of alterations put into the studio.

Tiffany continues releasing the Steele series but there's no idea of making them on the Tiff lot. Latter will become a rental studio similar to Met and Tec-Art.

## DARROW'S FILM PLAYS KNOXVILLE—AND LIVES

Knoxville, Aug. 10.

Clarence Darrow's "Mystery of Life" (Universal), made its opening stand in Scopes trial territory here without benefit of a chirp from anti-evolutionists locally, but played to a well filled house at the Strand, Publix, for four days last week.

Ministers at Dayton, Tenn., scene of Scopes trial, 30 miles from Knoxville, helped management out by promising to bar picture there on general principles. Darrow's retort from Chicago that objections were natural since Daytonites "believe in Adam and his procreating rib," and a return volley of scriptural quotation from George E. Guille, William Jennings Bryan University president at Dayton, helped to add to Knoxville gross during film's run. Protests from Memphis ministers also helped.

Date for Dayton showing is Aug. 17. Showing was postponed there, it is understood, at request of Darrow, now tied up with Stephenson trial, so that he'll be free to come to Dayton and fight for right to show his picture if ministers get tough. Since the preachers rapped film without seeing it, Universal is graciously suggesting previewing it for them in Dayton so they'll know what they're talking about.

Knoxville audience was urbane. Darrow's cracks at Tennessee brought hearty laughs.

## Botsford's Leap

Although little is being said about it at the Paramount home office the leavetaking of Dick Rowland has resulted in the quickest step-up of any press agent on the record of filmdom.

A. M. Botsford, former Publix publicity and advertising head, succeeds Rowland as Paramount story authority, it was reported yesterday.

Bottsford has been in the Par reading department a little more than five weeks.

## L. A. to N. Y.

Bobby Feldman.
John W. Considine, Jr.
Phil Bloom.
Groucho Marx.
Harpo Marx.
Chico Marx.
Frank Melino
Alfred Melino
Harriet Powell
Larry Darmour

## N. Y. to L. A.

Sylvia Sidney.
Albert Parker.
Frederick Lonsdale.
Leland Hayward.

## NICK LUCAS

"The Crooning Troubadour"

Archie Bell of the Cleveland "News" said: "He's the sort of fellow you'd like to drop in any time, day or night, and entertain you with a song, the best modern representative of the ancient troubadour."

This week (Aug. 8), R-K-O, Youngstown, Ohio.

Direction, **Leo Fitzgerald**
226 W. 47th St., New York

## 1st Runs on Broadway

**(Subject to Change)**
**(Week Aug. 14)**

**Paramount**—"Silence" (Par).
**Roxy**—"Bad Girl" (Fox).
**Capitol** — "Sporting Blood" (Metro).
**Rivoli**—"Smiling Lieutenant" (Par) (5th wk).
**Strand** — "Men Are Like That" (Col).
**Mayfair** — "Miracle Woman" (Col).
**Winter Garden** — "The Star Witness" (WB) (2nd wk).
**Hollywood**—"Bought" (WB).

**Week Aug. 21**

**Paramount** — "Daughter of Dragon" (Par).
**Roxy**—"The Brat" (Fox).
**Capitol** — "Pardon Us" (Metro).
**Rivoli**—"Smiling Lieutenant" (Par) (6th wk).
**Strand** — "The Last Flight" (FN).
**Mayfair**—"The Miracle Woman" (Col) (2nd wk).
**Winter Garden** — "The Star Witness" (WB) (3rd wk).
**Hollywood**—"Bought" (WB) 2nd wk).

**$2 Pictures**

**"A Free Soul"** (Metro) (Astor) (11th wk).
**"An American Tragedy"** (Par) (Criterion) (2nd wk).

**Foreign Films**

**"Zwei Herzen im ¾ Takt"** (Superfilm) (German) (Europa) (55th wk).
**"Lustige Weiber von Wien"** (Superfilm) (German) (Little Carnegie) (6th wk).
**"Express 13"** (Ufa) (German) (Cosmopolitan) (2nd wk).
**"Der Wahre Jacob"** (Emelka) (German) (Belmont) (2nd wk).
**"13 Men and A Girl"** (Ufa) (English version) (Cameo).

# Producers Sadly Quit Gang Cycle; Cleanup in U. S., Tho Flop Abroad

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Although the producers have a gentlemanly understanding not to make any more gang pictures, there's nevertheless an undercurrent of dissatisfaction. Producers' viewpoint is that, taken all in all, the gang cycle has been more productive commercially than any other so-called cycle in years.

Checking up on the plethora of gang films, however, the producers find that the bulk of the income is coming from the domestic market and that not much coin can be expected from the foreign field; English speaking countries included.

Only foreign country showing interest in the underworld type is France. This, it is explained, is due to the country's familiarity with an underworld of its own and with an understanding there of the apache, the nearest European character type to the American racketeer.

### Par's Experience

One example is Paramount's "City Streets." It was such a knockout in Paris as a superimposed title version that plans are now to synchronize it at Joinville for provincial release.

Great Britain and its colonies have been the hard nut to crack with the gang pictures, due to censorship regulations against films showing disregard of law or police crookedness.

Australia is absolutely thumbs down on all gang pictures. Canada has been wary, with only a few allowed, and in these cases with titles preceding the picture to the effect that the action could not take place in a Canadian city on account of the effectiveness of the home government and its police department.

# Hollywood

**Briefly rewritten extracts from "Variety's" Hollywood Bulletin, printed each Saturday in Hollywood, and placed as a wrapper upon the regular weekly "Variety."**

**The Bulletin does not circulate other than on the Pacific Slope.**

**News from the Dailies in Los Angeles will be found in that customary department.**

Hollywood and Beverly Hills have voted for beer and light wines and are practising what they vote. And the sobering effect is evident. Fewer brawls and fewer but happier stews.

Beer is especially popular, the costlier wines being out altogether. "What is home without a beer machine?" is the Beverly Hills slogan. The machine costs from $25 up and connects with a 16-gallon keg of the foamy, shooting it out on draught, guaranteed to keep a mob happy and not ruin the b. r. The beer tendency is also noticed as the speaks are knocked over. Little hard stuff evident, the customers taking the brew at 35 cents a tall glass, and at that price it has to be good.

### U. A. Starters

Sidney Howard was engaged by Sam Goldwyn to add more story to "Greeks Had a Word for It," which starts this week, with Lowell Sherman megging, and Ina Claire, Joan Blondell and Carole Lombard in the femme leads. Next Ronald Coleman, "Arrowsmith," starts the following week, with John Ford megging and Helen Hayes opposite.

### Sale's Coast Legit

Chic Sale goes legit for Henry Duffy when he gets out of the Santa Barbara hospital. The specialist will play a carney concessionaire in a piece by Vernon Smith.

### "No One Man" at Par

"No One Man" being readied by Paul Hervey Fox for Louther Mendes' meg at Par. Story by Rupert Hughes goes to Richard Arlen and Carol Lombard.

Bing Crosby east to make better disks, and maybe go into a show. Brunswick understood not liking the Coast recordings.

### Obliging Radio

When the Hays office spotted the title "The Gland Parade" for a Roscoe Ates short it ordered "cut it out." So Radio changed it to "Cut It Out."

### F&M in Spokane

The new Fox in Spokane takes on F-M Ideas Sept. 3. Phoenix house is straight sound.

### "Ships" Off Mex.

Pathe's "Mystery Ships" shoots Aug. 11 off the Coronado Islands, Mex., borrowing destroyers and subs from the San Diego base. Bill Boyd starred.

Fox borrowed C. Aubrey Smith from Metro for "Surrender." Lead by Edward Crandall, a Broadway import.

Sammy Lee comes out next month to make a dozen dance shorts for Paramount. Last here as dance director for Metro.

### Branch Stays Local

Houston Branch will do some writing for Warners-FN locally. Darryl Zanuck engaged him for the London unit, realizing too late that the quota law calls for a British writer.

### Rex Winds Up

That horse star, Rex, is now studding on an Arizona ranch for Fox.

### Lief Back at M-G

Max Lief is back with Metro as lyricist as well as scenarist. He's doing numbers for "The Cuban," Tibbetts' next.

Metro is making a mystery of Faith Baldwin's "Skyscraper." After lamping several treatments on the sex angle, execs ordered in a detective.

### "Laughter" Too Weak

Radio shelving "Home Town Laughter," that "Post" tale by John Reid Byers intended for Ricardo Cortez. Too weak, the execs said.

### Denny Sells to U

Universal bought Reginald Denny's "That's My Baby" talker rights. It's a 1927 silent by and with Denny. Metro, where Denny is under contract, deliberated too long so Denny took it to his old home lot.

### Montgomery in "Boats"

Robert Montgomery gets "Pig Boats" instead of "Family Affair" at Metro. Story trouble on the latter.

### Fairbanks Quits RKO

Major Fairbanks (Smith), head of Radio's research dept. since the job of plant superintendent was eliminated two months ago, has resigned. Mrs. Elizabeth McGaffey succeeds.

### Crawford Fox Caster

William Crawford, a couple of years ago legal counsel for Fox studio, is the new assistant casting director. During interim he's been a unit manager.

### Metro's Dub Troupes

George Kahn goes to Europe next month to line up German, French and Spanish sync talent for the Metro dubbing troupes.

### A Cinch

Alien writer who has to leave the States for overstay of leave has it all figured how to continue drawing studio pay. While still writing a story for his bosses, he goes below the border to return later as sec to a Balkan consul.

### Col. Keeps Kahn

Gordon Kahn, at Columbia on a one story job, sticks indefinitely.

### Rubio at Fox

Jose Lopez Rubio in for three months of foreign dialoging at Fox. Formerly at Metro.

### New "Husbands"

A reconstructed legit production of "As Husbands Go" opens at the Columbia in San Francisco Aug. 24, featuring Laura Hope Crews, with Kenneth Thompson in the male lead. First Coast production folded after two weeks at the Los Angeles Biltmore in June.

Paramount holds the screen rights to this Rachel Crothers play.

### Torres in Vaude

Raquel Torres goes vauding this week starting around Chi. Jack Lester staged her routine.

### Cantor's Meaning

Samuel Goldwyn's strengthened belief in musicals means added numbers for the Eddie Cantor picture, meaning a week or more of retakes and delay of Cantor's personals in San Francisco, New York, and Brooklyn. And he won't get that London visit till September.

### Young as Ed. P. A.

Lon Young put in as Educational studio p.a. Ray Hoadley moves to Tiffany and continues publicizing that studio, James Cruze Productions, and Bob Steele westerns.

### No U Visitors

Universal has the screws down for visiting firemen again. Rubberneck rule has been relaxed for some time. Now the perennial "No Visitors" sign is back.

Jack Pierre and Nick Warner go with Fanchon & Marco as unit managers. Former with "Hot Java" Idea, latter with "About Town."

### Used Cars West

Tourists are driving used cars from the middle west to Los Angeles for two bits a day and expenses. Overloading of the used-car market in that section causing the dealers to ship the cars here.

### Cycle of Suits

Gladys Blue, former wife of Monte Blue, filed a $2,000 slander suit against "Motion Picture Magazine" and Marquis Busby, writer, for alleged injurious articles published in 1922. At the same time Charles Clark, attorney for Mrs. Blue, filed bankruptcy papers for Eugene Brewster, former millionaire fan mag publisher and one-time owner of "M. P. Magazine," who claimed that his assets were $100. Brewster's wife, Corliss Palmer, is trying to make a screen comeback.

Robert Milton goes to London for a vacation in Sept. While there he will shoot scenes for "Devotion," Ann Harding picture he directed for Pathe.

### Third "Wicked" Retakes

Leads in Fox's "Wicked" were called back last week for added scenes. This is third time picture has had retakes since it finished three weeks ago.

### And More Imports

Foreign players are squawking over the announcement of studios that they will import more foreign players for synced versions. Players protesting to Hays organization, government and Chamber of Commerce, claiming there are plenty here now.

Jack Retlaw, assistant division manager for Fox-West Coast, will

(Continued on Page 38)

# WHAT ABOUT THE SCHOOLS?

## 108 Indie Houses Closed in Chicago In Protest, Forcing 3,000 Employes Out of Work in Dispute with Union

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Just 108 Chicago theatres made good the threat of Allied States Exhibitors and closed today in protest against the two-man rule for the booth required by the operators' union. Tom Maloy, its business agent, has repeately refused to rescind this rule which is part of the contract between all exhibitors and the union running to January next.

Federal Government entered the situation when Benjamin Marshman, Labor Department arbiter, called a meeting for this afternoon in an effort to achieve a compromise. Approximately 250 projectionists were deprived of their jobs by the shutout, but other theatrical employes, such as ushers, janitors, etc., run the total unemployed to a reported 3,000.

Film Row buzzed today with a rumor that Western Electric, through ERPI, will supply manpower to run the allied theatres. This was denied to a "Variety" reporter at ERPI offices. Western Electric laboratories in Chicago are open shop.

Sunday newspapers carried advertisements from Allied bidding for sympathy, with ads worded to give impression two-man rule in booth is new demand just made by operations' union.

Allied will meet Tuesday (11) to decide what to do next and possibly lay plans to reopen with scab oprators.

The downstate membership of Allied is not involved.

**Publicity**

In giving publicity to the names and addresses of the theatres pledged to close Monday many observers believed Allied Exhibitors made a tactical error. It is pointed out that to be labelled as having labor troubles is a serious matter in Chicago. The public, aware of the tiff, may be apprehensive even when the houses reopen and will require assurances that cannot be given if any of the Allied houses attempt to use scab projectionists.

Allied, however, was chiefly concerned in making a good showing in their boasted walk out. Steffes and Saperstein have been making the rounds constantly to strengthen the dubious members and reinforce the determination of the faithful. Publicity and a marshalling of forces in a way to impress the timid were essential. Hence the publication of the names and addresses of the closing theatres.

It is not quite clear what Allied hopes to gain by shutting their houses beyond escaping a couple of hot August weeks that might see red anyhow. Removal of 108 theatres and about 65,000 seats from competition will naturally greatly please Balaban and Katz, which has declined to take sides or to join any exhibitor agitation against the operators.

**Affiliations**

Certain of the Allied members have circuit affiliation through booking pools, or otherwise, and will not be permitted to join the others in their manoeuvers to force Tom Maloy to accede to their demands for relief from the two man rule. This is part of the contract running to next January.

Both Aaron Saperstein and Theodore Levin, the Allied attorneys, have stated that Allied members will use non-union help. But not immediately. First they will allow a period of darkness to intervene in the hope of an amicable settlement.

## Clair Stays Home

Universal's deal with Rene Clair, French director, for him to come to America to meg one film is cold.

Frenchman prefers to stay in Paris for the time being.

## U.A.'s Starting Trio

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

U.A. will launch its new season's product with "Street Scene," regarded as the smash of the Sam Goldwyn trio.

Colman's "Unholy Garden" will be released next and then Eddie Cantor's "Palmy Days" which Goldwyn wanted to spot right after "Street Scene" but delayed through retakes.

The retake necessity in the Cantor picture is more complimentary than otherwise, the previews demanding additional song and dance stuff which had been minimized because of the uncertainty over musicals until the definite trend was established.

## Shorts Producers Find Color Easiest Promotion Angle Now

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Indie shorts producers are rushing to color in an effort to get their product spotted on major release lists or distribution other than state right.

Multicolor has half a dozen propositions on tap by indie producers but Technicolor is steering clear of the indies unless they show cash.

Producers figure that with the shorts market over-stocked their best selling angle is color. Credit from Multicolor, which is frankly dealing it out, is also figured a good promotion angle by the indie producers giving them a certain substantiality with the "angels."

Black and white labs have all cut credit to the bone, hence the color angle is the indies' best bet.

## May Take Gibbons at Par with His Short

Having a deal on with RKO-Pathe to buy the 13 in the Floyd Gibbons "Supreme Thrill" series, Publix meanwhile is dickering for Gibbons himself for appearance at the New York and Brooklyn Paramounts in connection with exhibition of first, "Woodrow Wilson's Great Decision." This one, leading off the series, is completed and will be ready for release early in September.

The fast talker is reported asking $5,000 a week from Publix but is unlikely to appear in out-of-town houses of that chain due to broadcasting obligations.

A. H. Van Beuren is producing the Gibbons shorts series with A. P. Waxman and Mitchael Mindlin supervising, RKO-Pathe having release.

Under its deal Publix would take the shorts where available. For New York it would mean getting the series away from the RKO chain.

## Using Unseen Players

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Metro's "Lullabye" with Helen Hayes, finished a month ago is in for more repairs. They're bringing into the picture characters that were mentioned in the play but not seen.

Alan Hale and Russell Powell have been engaged to play the new parts.

Plan is for about a week of retakes.

### Shutan's Part

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Harry Shutan, vaude and legit comedian, goes into "Are These Our Children" at Radio.

### Just Fed Up

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Jack Ehms, secretary to Fred Beetson of the producers' association the last two years, and previously theatre bookkeeper for Sid Grauman, finally got fed up on bending over desks in Hollywood offices.

Ehms resigned suddenly and has gone to Oregon to dig for gold.

That's what romance means to a white-collarite of Hollywood.

## NOW GO LEGIT FOR FILM BREAK

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

During the production lull, the angle screen people have on going east and taking a flyer in Broadway legit is to land in a hit and then be engaged to recreate for the screen their original stage roles.

Closer interlocking of the stage-screen technic has given many of the veteran screen stock people the idea of taking to Broadway for prestige purposes.

Requests to the local "Variety" office for recommendations of the Broadway legit agents were the first intimations of this sudden interest in the stage angle by picture people.

## MAYER IN BOTSFORD'S FORMER PUBLIX SPOT

Arthur Mayer will succeed A. M. Botsford's former Publix post as head of publicity and advertising. Switch will take place this or next week.

Mayer is a former mid-west divisional director for Publix. L. J. Ludwig is apt to succeed him as supervisor of Publix theatres for Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Arizona, Wyoming and Colorado.

Before joining Publix, Mayer was general manager for the Asher Brothers in Chicago, Lubliner and Trinz, and also Great States. Ludwig was previously with Finkelstein and Rubin.

Botsford is now sitting in on Paramount's studio production matters in New York.

## WB-FN Writers Prepare For Labor Day Start

Burbank, Cal., Aug. 10.

All the writers at WB-FN got back today with story preparations and casting starting to move along a bit more briskly. First picture into work right after Labor Day will be Marilyn Miller's "Her Majesty's Love," with some German music assigned the star being adapted by Al Dubin. This is a changeabout for Miss Miller, who was to have gone dramatic.

Ben Lyon is opposite Miss Miller. Latter is still in Santa Barbara convalescing from her appendicitis op.

### FOX'S "FIRST CABIN"

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Based on the reception of "Transatlantic," Fox will essay a follow-up with Louis Joseph Vance's "First Cabin," which it has purchased.

Ralph Morgan, from legit, will make his screen debut in this offering with John Blystone directing.

### Dot Stickney Connects

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Dorothy Stickney, legit actress who came here with her husband, Howard Lindsay, when the latter arrived to fill a Metro writing contract, has promoted a job for herself on the Paramount lot.

Her first try will be a role in "Working Girl."

## HAYS OFFICE SAYS "YES" AND THE BANKERS SAY "NO"

**Wall Street Would Keep Educational Film Distinct from Amusement End—No Money Advanced Until Sure—Rockefeller Foundation Interested?—Film Men See Schoolroom Start This Fall with 16m. Subjects**

### CONFLICTION OF IDEAS

**FILM SIDE**

The film industry officially starts moving into schools of the U. S. next month. It has the assurances of representative boards of education that pictures are to be an important part of classroom functionings.

Film leaders for the first time have established a general policy for dealing with a new field which they say will eclipse many times the returns garnered from theatres and at the same time will protect and expand, rather than squeeze, the legitimate picture box office.

Instead of renting film the industry will sell it outright to classrooms. On this one item producers are already figuring that within another year instead of 150 prints of a subject, considered a fair theatre order, 150,000 copies of one subject will be made and disposed of for classroom consumption.

The industry has decided that the morning use of its theatres would be impracticable, but that where schools are slow in making installations the local houses will cooperate.

Sixteen millimeter stock with the sound track is to be standard for schools. The standard theatre stock is deemed by technical experts too dangerous for use in the average auditorium as well as too expensive, since the operation of a large machine would eat up in wages alone what the average teacher devotes two weeks to earn.

Introduction of films in schools will not shorten courses. The same 12 years of elementary learning are to be continued, pictures being deemed a clarifier not to be found in the average textbook.

New production as well as sales methods are to be introduced in the industry, the school department being what is described as an organization within an organization. Pictures made for the classrooms will be a combination of motion picture skill with an expert knowledge of pedagogy.

Because of mass production filmdom will ask prices comparatively low, even to those now obtained from the smallest grind theatres.

The 1,000,000 classrooms in grammar and high schools throughout the U. S. are being considered by the industry in regard to income. If only 10% of these, which filmdom's contracts with the educational boards are certain will subscribe, then the industry will have more 16mm. talker equipment installations than are in recognized theatres today.

**Small Film Delay**

Sound on small film has caused the delay all around. With the announcement of its perfection and readiness for the general market this fall, schools have listened to the industry, and the industry has prepared to enter a field guaranteed non-competitive with television or what other innovation may crop up.

At the same time filmdom is certain that use of pictures in the classrooms will develop picture-mindedness, and with it a more discriminatory judgment of what shall and shall not be made in Hollywood.

Buffalo, Aug. 10.

State Teachers College, in summer session here, with 1,300 students, is currently employing the cinema university, latest development in educational lines. Pro-

(Continued on page 34)

**BANKERS' SIDE**

All the hubbub anent the educational or school field is so much theoretic excitement to the bankers. Even if the film companies wish to twist their way into the schoolroom they are not to do so. That's the sentiment of the biggest financial sources of the industry, without whom the educational field cannot be developed.

In this group are the Morgan, Rockefeller and Kuhn-Loeb interests. When the educational field does go lapping off into a productive field it will likely be the Rockefeller interests through the Rockefeller Foundation, or some such similar organization to be formed, which will undertake the work and carry it through under the supervisory eye of the government.

It's the progressive commentary on the business when it's repeated as told that the film companies are to stick to the entertainment field and leave the educational field to others. Those others are educators who know how, when and what.

The money men have given the school field intensive thought, judging from their expressed reactions. Wall Street looks upon the schools as a potential bonanza that in time may outstrip the amusement field so far as money returns go. But that won't come for some time.

The various film companies may be called in to aid but that help will come in the way of providing studio space and making available certain technical assistance.

There are many angles to this since it looked for a while that Fox might begin shoving educational films into theatres for experimental purposes or kid interest or something. That's a studio angle. That matter from last inquiry is still something for Fox Film to decide. Fox Film pioneered in the educational picture field by backing the government's tests in providing films for the recent visual education tests among the country's schoolchildren at Georgetown University, Washington, D. C.

It is unlikely, however, that Fox Film will go beyond that step for the present yet and may not even go as far. The principal reason is the tremendous amount of money needed to manufacture the films desired, plus the lack of a specialized personnel and ready market. These are topped by all kinds of other arguments against any company entry into the field.

Ahead of all this is the equipment angle. Before pictures can be made the school market must be outfitted with proper equipment. What kind of equipment is something nobody hazards to guess. Equipment people queried insist the proper medium would be the regular 35 mm width, although certain general observers talk about 16 mm.

**The Banker Angle**

The angle at the present time is the banker attitude. That amounts to as much of an order as Wall Street ever gives openly or otherwise. When the three banker angles are considered as named it's easy to glean anybody outside that trio is just anybody. Any money in the film biz is directly or indirectly lined from those three sources.

It's evident that they have made up their minds not to shove any money into new film ideas without careful stepping and also that they intend to keep the entertainment field for entertainment manufacture only or mostly.

Fox Film has released a report from the U. S. Commissioner of Education showing the result of the

(Continued on page 34)

# Bulls Have It in L. A., Where "Politics" Is Sailing for $38,000 And "Finn" Giving Par $22,000

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

Happy days are here again at the box offices. "Politics," at the State, smashed the first two days' attendance records, but eased on the weekend and won't set a record, though $38,000 is great. "Huckleberry Finn," at the Par, is 'way up with a $22,000 pace, and the general tone of the grosses is bullish.

"Common Law" at $11,000 is strong on the holdover, and the manner in which "Smiling Lieutenant" at the Carthay Circle is holding up on its fifth week will keep it there an extra couple of innings after being originally penciled in to blow.

Two openings this week, "Transatlantic" succeeding "Young as You Feel" as the day-and-dater at the Chinese and Criterion tomorrow (11). "American Tragedy" stages a $3 premiere at the United Artists the next night (12). Much local interest in "Tragedy" because of the publicity and mixed Broadway notices.

Both top money gross-getters, the Par and State, had to cut their stage shows to take care of the turnovers, the Par advancing its opening of the doors by almost two hours to 9:30 a. m. The bargain 15c. kid admissions for "Finn" offset a heavier money gate.

The State ran six stage shows weekdays and seven presentations of the F&M stage Idea over the weekend, also very unusual, cutting the trailers, shorts, etc., to jam in an extra screening of the feature.

Bullishness of grosses proves there is picture dough in town if the films can probe it loose.

### Estimates for This Week

**Carthay Circle** (Fox) (1,500; 50-$1.50)—"Smiling Lieutenant" (Par) (5th week). Holding up so well its anticipated stay extended indef, although planned to go dark this week. $9,000 last week and $6,300 this.

**Chinese** (Fox) (2,028; 50-75)—"Young as You Feel" (Fox) (3d-final week). Only three weeks, running about even with the Criterion. $7,700 pace currently and $10,300 last week. "Transatlantic" opens Aug. 11.

**Criterion** (Fox) (1,600; 35-65)—"Young as You Feel" (Fox) (3d-final week). Mild at $8,000. Last week $10,600. "Transatlantic" day-date with the Chinese starts the 11th.

**Orpheum** (2,270; 25-50)—"The Common Law" (RKO-Pathe) (2d week). Holding up well at $11,000. Opening week $14,600, plenty okay. Means an extended run unless it suddenly brodies, as in 'Frisco, where it died after a strong start.

**Pantages** (Fox) (2,700; 20-40-65-90)—"Tabu" (Par). Eased to $9,300. Last week "Man in Possession," $11,800.

**Paramount** (Publix) (3,595; 25-75)—"Huckleberry Finn" (Par). Very strong $22,000. Way the Par has been picking up the last three weeks looks like the house is rounding the corner in great style. Last week "Murder by the Clock," at $18,000 okay considering lack of name draw.

**RKO** (2,950; 30-65)—"Always Goodbye" (Fox). After good start broke to $9,500 gait, sharply off. Last week "Transgression," $10,700.

**State** (Loew-Fox) (2,024; 35-$1)—"Politics" (M-G). Doing six stage shows daily and crowded in seven on weekends. Close to $38,000. Broke attendance records first two days, opening to 10,465 admissions as against 9,868 for "Caught Short," the previous high. Second day drew 10,948 customers against "Short" at 10,000 admissions. Reduced summer scale will count against a new house record. Last week "Hush Money" brodied at $14,400.

**Wilshire** (Fox) (2,296; 36-60)—"Free Soul" (M-G). Oke at over $5,500. Last week "Tabu" eased off a bit to $4,600.

**Downtown** (WB) (1,800; 25-50)—"Reckless Hour" (FN). $10,000 fair. "Bought" next for two weeks and "Star Witness" thereafter for another fortnight's stay. Last week, holdover on "Night Nurse," just under $10,000.

**Hollywood** (WB) (2,756; 35-50)—"Reckless Hour" (FN). Fair at $11,000, a grand better than the second week of "Night Nurse."

## YOUNGSTER'S FOX CONTRACT

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Ted Alexander, eight-year-old Oakland lad, never in pictures, has been signed by Fox with options for seven years. It's the first minor contract taking advantage of California's new seven-year law.

Young Alexander's only professional work was in a recent legit Coast production of "Tomorrow and Tomorrow."

# Robinson Personal Pushes for $20,000, Dietrich Suit Helps

Newark, Aug. 10.
**(Drawing Population, 850,000)**

Edward G. Robinson, at Proctor's, is packing them in surprisingly. Despite that the thermometer officially registered 100 over the weekend, business fine wherever attractions are good.

### Estimates for This Week

**Branford** (WB) (2,350; 20-35-50)—"Transatlantic" (Fox) and stage show. Should do nicely at $14,000. Last week "Secret Call" (Par) weak at $10,000.

**Little** (Fine Arts Theatre) (299; 30-60)—"Three Loves" (Terra). News stories on suit against Dietrich jumped business and film holding for fifth week; if curiosity doesn't drop, should reach $1,200. Last week okay at nearly $1,000.

**Loew's State** (2,780; 30-50)—"Son of India" (M-G) and vaude. Navarro no draw here and will do well to reach $11,500. Last week "Man in Possession" (M-G) big at $17,000.

**Proctor's** (RKO) (2,650; 25-40-50-60)—"Night Angel" (Par) and vaude. E. G. Robinson in person a big draw; if film feature were stronger house might go near record figures; splendid at $20,000. Last week "I Take This Woman" (Par) to fine $16,000.

**Terminal** (Fox) (1,900; 25-50)—"Their Mad Moment" (Fox). Ought to come close to a fair $6,000. Last week "Holy Terror" (Fox) not so hot near $5,000.

## NITE BIZ SHOT IN K. C., 'DIRIGIBLE' TIPS $20,000

Kansas City, Aug. 10.

If there's any credit for trying, local managers can claim a share—and this week, with four strong pictures on the stem, business should be better. But, as usual, there is no assurance.

Mainstreet has "Dirigible" and gave it extra publicity and exploitation. The Newman, after a fine week with "Smiling Lieutenant," now has "Huckleberry Finn." Although announcing "Caught" for the Liberty, management decided to send "Lieut" to that house for a second week.

Last week was a disappointment. Night business, in spite of the three big pictures, failed to come back. Matinees, however, were good. Theatres are not the only ones noticing the slack night trade. In one popular cigar store, in the heart of the theatre district, where three clerks were formerly kept busy, one now has trouble keeping awake.

### Estimates for This Week

**Mainstreet** (3,200; 25-35-50-60)—"Dirigible" (Col), and vaude. Opened well and should get a good $20,000. Last week "Miracle Woman" (Col), $18,000.

**Loew's Midland** (4,000; 25-50)—"Five and Ten" (M-G). Marion Davies never much of a riot in this town and only about poor $13,000 indicated. Last week "Politics" (M-G) just a fair $17,600.

**Newman** (1,890; 25-35-50)—"Huckleberry Finn" (Par). Fine for kids and will come close to good $12,000. Last week "Smiling Lieutenant" (Par) had holdout lines for first time in weeks; $22,000, great.

**Liberty** (1,000; 25-35-50)—"Smiling Lieutenant" (Par). Second week for picture on street and maybe $6,000 here. Last week "Murder by the Clock" (Par) hurt by the opposition next door, $6,500.

## LOUISVILLE PERKS UP

**"Nurse" and "Sporting Blood" Giving $12,000 a Run**

Louisville, Aug. 10.

Business this week appears on an upward trend. Last week "Politics" gave the State its summer high with $16,500.

### Estimates for This Week

**Rialto** (4th Ave.) (2,940; 30-40-50-60)—"Night Nurse" (WB), and vaude. On way to $12,700, pretty good.

**State** (Loew) (3,252; 25-35-50-60)—"Sporting Blood" (M-G). Seems particularly strong and may nudge $12,000.

**Strand** (4th Ave.) (1,865; 25-35-50-60)—"Young As You Feel" (Fox). Rogers doing very well, possibly $10,000.

**Alamo** (4th Ave.) (1,100; 15-25-40)—"Ten Nights in Barroom" (indie). Just dribbling along for weak $3,500.

## "MURDER" $8,500—PROV.

**Town Likes Mystery—"Lie" Around $13,000**

Providence, Aug. 10.
**(Drawing Population, 315,000)**

Boiling temperature, reaching 94, is liable to put a huge dent in grosses this week. "Magnificent Lie," at the Majestic, advertised as "not a picture for children," doing well.

### Estimates for This Week

**Majestic** (Fay) (2,200; 15-50)—"Magnificent Lie" (Par). Should take in $13,000. Last week "Night Nurse" (WB) and "Children of Dreams" (WB) okay at $12,000.

**Loew's State** (3,500; 20-50-75)—"Politics" (M-G). Newspaper contest failing to develop punch; maybe $16,000, fair. Last week "Squaw Man" (M-G) ballyhooed as world premiere, $16,400.

**Albee** (RKO) (2,500; 15-50)—"Women Between" (Radio). With a bit of cool weather may reach $4,000, light. Last week "Dirigible" (Col) went over fairly well, $6,100.

**Victory** (RKO) (1,600; 15-50)—"Mother's Millions" (U). Not good at around $1,800. Last week "Common Law" (Pathe), brought in from sister house for second week, $2,300.

**Fay's** (1,600; 15-50)—"Their Mad Moment" (Fox) and vaude. Will bat slightly under $7,000, vaude doing most of work. Last week "Daddy Long Legs" (Fox) came from Majestic after few weeks and $6,500.

**Paramount** (2,200; 15-50)—"Murder by Clock" (Par). Going big and sure to bat around $8,500. Last week "Secret Call" (Par), $4,600.

## MONT'L IN BAD SLUMP, $10,000 OR LESS, TOP

Montreal, Aug. 10.
**(Drawing Population, 600,000)**

Worst week of the worst summer in years doesn't look like being succeeded by a better one—at least appreciably. Nothing wrong with the flickers. "Politics," at the Palace, ought to get its $15,000 in an average week, but if it reaches $10,000 under current conditions, that'll be fine.

A stiffening in British films, as a concession to public opinion, worked up by the press all over Canada of recent weeks, but "Skin Game," at the Princess, and "Yellow Mask," at the Imperial, won't boost matters much.

Nabes, without exception, are in the red.

### Estimates for This Week

**Palace** (FP) (2,700; 75)—"Politics" (M-G). Most popular picture in week started out only fairly; $10,000 will be best and maybe much less than that. Last week "Man in Possession" (M-G), rated another hit, only around $9,500.

**Capitol** (FP) (2,700; 60)—"Secret Call" (Par) and "Tabu" (Par). Not much hope with things as they are; chance for $9,000, but doubtful. Last week "Chances" (FN) and "Broadminded" (FN) a little over $8,000.

**Loew's** (FP) (3,200; 35-60)—"Maltese Falcon" (WB) and vaude. Good show cannot overcome conditions in worst month of year; perhaps $9,000. Last week "Everything's Rosie" (Radio), maybe $8,000.

**Princess** (CT) (1,600; 35-60)—"Skin Game" (British). Galsworthy may bring some of literati but cannot look for better than $6,500. Last week "Lover Come Back" (Col), poor with $5,500.

**Imperial** (FP) (1,900; 25-40)—"Yellow Mask" (British) and "In Old Cheyenne" (Ed). May collect around $3,000. Last week "Night Birds" (British) and "Soldiers and Women" (WB) had no special appeal and mauled by censors, $2,500.

**Cinema de Paris** (Ind)—"Le Poignard Malais" (French). Bad again at $1,500. Last week "Les Quatre Vagabonds" (French) about same figure.

## "Lieut." on Way for $13,000 in Birmingham

Birmingham, Aug. 10.
**(Drawing Population, 325,000)**

Nothing new along dead house lane. The 10 houses closed because of operators salaries remain so and are likely to stay that way a while. Fans have a choice of only three shows.

Battle this week is between "Dirigible" and "Smiling Lieutenant." Vaude will help give Chevalier the edge.

### Estimates for This Week

**Alabama** (Publix) (2,800; 25-35-60)—"Smiling Lieutenant" (Par) and vaude. Will get up to $13,000. Last week "Politics" (M-G) liked for $12,500.

**Ritz** (RKO) (1,600; 25-40)—"Dirigible" (Col). In advertising spat with opposition and should do well, $6,000. Last week "Common Law" (Pathe) took the women with $6,500, best in weeks.

**Rialto** (Wilby) (500; 15-25)—"Meet the Wife" and "Conquering Horde." Double bill first two days; "Way for a Sailor" and "Parlor, Bedroom and Bath" finishing up the week as single features, $2,600.

# "What a Week" Campaign

## Portland Using It—"Politics" on Way to $17,000 and "Lieutenant," $14,000

Portland, Ore., Aug. 10.
**(Drawing Population, 400,000)**

Fox houses have "What a Picture Week" as a build-up idea. "Politics," at the Paramount, and "Smiling Lieutenant," at the Broadway, are getting the full barrage of exploitation. Likely that this and similar plugging of specific weeks will replace the Greater Movie Season idea.

Chief opposition for all houses this week is six-day bicycle marathon at Multnomah stadium. Well exploited and clicking for day and night crowds. Ed Waller, Dufwin legit director, is managing the affair for Multnomah Athletic Club. Pro bike riders are booked as a road show on a slice.

### Estimates for This Week

**Paramount** (FWC) (3,500; 25-60), "Politics" (M-G) and unit. Getting over in a big way and maybe $17,000, fine. Last week "Son of India" (M-G) all right at $13,000.

**Broadway** (Fox-Portland) (2,000; 25-60), "Smiling Lieutenant" (Par). Clicking and likely to go to $14,000, swell. Last week "Chances" (FN) only $6,000.

**Orpheum** (RKO) (2,000; 25-60), "Public Defender" (Radio) and vaude. Fair for around $7,500. Last week "Common Law" (Pathe) good at $10,700.

**Music Box** (Hamrick) (2,000; 25), "Reckless Hour" (FN). So-so for possible $3,500. Last week "Resurrection" (WB) okay with $4,600.

## Critics–Patrons Disagree, "Law" Around $15,000

Cincinnati, Aug. 10.
**(Drawing population, 700,000)**

Striking failure of critics and customers to agree evident this week. Illustrated in "Politics" and "Common Law" rating uncommon grosses though heartily rapped. "Miracle Woman" drew the panegyrics (wow) but not the fans.

Off standard vaude is dropping the Albee to its lowest in a long while. Sweltering weekend.

### Estimates for This Week

**Albee**—(RKO) (3,300; 35-75) "Girl Habit" (Par) and vaude. Film okay but vaude is not; $18,000 is ultimate and poor. Last week "Five and Ten" (M-G) and good stage did great $23,000.

**Lyric** — (RKO) (1,400; 30-50) "Common Law" (Pathe). Constance Bennett no rave with reviewers, but peasants flocking for $15,000, okay. Last week "Woman of Experience" (Pathe) poor at $6,000.

**Palace** — (RKO) (2,700; 35-50) "Politics" (M-G). Dressler-Moran combo whacking off $18,500. Highest in weeks, despite newspaper pokes. Last week "Man in Possession" (M-G) did very good $15,500.

**Capitol** — (RKO) (2,000; 30-50) "Miracle Woman" (Col). Only fair on $7,500 prospect, though cricks tossed everything roseate at it. Last week same amount on "Hush Money" (Fox).

**Strand** — (RKO) (1,350; 35-40) "Up for Murder" (U). Ayres credited with fair $3,500 pace. Last week "Big Business Girl" (FN) same figure.

**Family** — (RKO) (1,140; 20-35) "Magnificent Lie" (Par), second run, and "Children of Dreams" (WB). Split weeking fair for $1,800. Same last week on "Night Angel" (Par) second run and "Dancing Dynamite" (Talmadge).

## BOSTON FEELS BETTER

**"Call" Near $28,000 at Met—"Mother's Millions" Around $18,000**

Boston, Aug. 10.
**(Drawing Population, 850,000)**

Cooler and better is the order of the day. Change should bring grosses back toward normal in the film houses here.

Last week was not so good, but new stanza is making showmen feel like smiling again.

### Estimates for This Week

**Met** (4,380; 50-75) "Secret Call" (Par) and stage show. With Horace Heidt band has a chance for $26,000, fair. Heidt and "Magnificent Lie" (Par) got $30,000 on eight days last week.

**Keith - Boston** (3,000; 40-50) "Mother's Millions" (U) and vaude. May go close to $18,000, not bad. Last week Dorothy Stone and "Reckless Hour" (FN) only $10,300.

**Keith's** (RKO) (4,000; 35-50-60). Heavy advertising on "Dirigible" (Col); previous run at Majestic; only looks like $14,000, light. Last week "Common Law" (Pathe) got $16,200 in second week.

**State** (4,000; 35-50-60) "Sporting Blood" (M-G) and vaude. With free pictures of Clark Gable for ladies should bring gross to $16,000. Last week with "Politics" (M-G) and heavy ads, $20,500, okay.

## 'FINN' $15,000, DENVER

**All Houses Improve—"Defender" Nice at $11,000**

Denver, Aug. 10.
**(Drawing Population, 400,000)**

Everything points toward a good week. After a terrific hot spell the weather is more favorable and all houses look like average or above.

### Estimates for This Week

**Huffman's Aladdin** (1,500; 35-50-75)—"Miracle Woman" (Col). Will be good at $7,000. Last week "Holy Terror" (Fox) only $5,000.

**Denver** (Publix) (2,300; 25-35-65)—"Huckleberry Finn" (Par) and F-M unit. Headed for fine week of $15,000. Last week "Politics" (M-G) skyrocketed to wild finish for $26,300 on eight days.

**Paramount** (Publix) (2,000; 25-35-50)—"Public Defender" (Radio). Doing nicely for $11,000. Last week "Murder by Clock" (Par), $8,700.

**Rialto** (Publix) (1,040; 25-35-50)—"Politics" (M-G). Moved over from big house despite "Caught" being advertised; should get $4,500. Last week "Everything's Rosie" (Radio), $2,200, poor.

**Huffman's Tabor** (1,900; 25-35-50)—"Woman of Experience" (Pathe). Going along nicely for $9,000. Last week "Hush Money" (Fox) $8,000.

# MINN. RETAINS FAST CLIP, Over $30,000

Minneapolis, Aug. 10.

The marvel of local filmdom is the business being done by the Minnesota and Orpheum in the face of generally depressed conditions and record breaking heat. With "Politics" last week, the big ace Publix house grossed just under $35,000, the second biggest week it ever has had. And this week, with "Smiling Lieutenant," every indication points to another $30,000 week, the third within a month.

Orpheum last week, with "Dirigible," came through to the tune of $18,300. This was on the heels of a $15,000 seven days turned in by "Miracle Woman." Currently, however, the house is laboring with "Woman of Experience," and will do well to top $10,000.

Another gross getter in town this week is "Night Nurse," at the State.

### Estimtaes for This Week

**Minnesota** (Publix) (4,200; 75)—"Smiling Lieutenant" (Par) and F-M unit. All around excellent program; Chevalier a magnet and naughty but nice picture causing plenty of word-of-mouth; third F-M stage show also good; should maintain recent swift pace of house; $31,000. "Politics" (M-G) just under $35,000, enormous.

**Orpheum** (RKO) (2,890; 50)—"Woman of Experience" (Pathe) and vaude. Nothing on screen or stage to pull and a picture panned by critics; will not get much more than $10,000, poor. Last week "Dirigible" (Col), about $18,300, immense.

**State** (Publix) (2,200; 90)—"Night Nurse" (WB). Indications point to around $9,000, good. Last week "Great Lover" (M-G), around $5,700, poor.

**Lyric** (Publix) (1,300; 35)—"Broadminded" (FN). Exhibiting some boxoffice strength and looks as though it will give house first rate week; attractive fronts here and at State help biz; may reach $4,500, good. Last week "Women Love Once" (Par) about $2,500, poor.

**Aster** (Publix) (900; 25)—"Quick Millions" (Fox). Sans names and in weak house; not likely to exceed $1,500, fair. Last week "Never the Twain" (M-G) around $800, bad.

**Grand** (Publix) (1,100; 25)—"Daddy Long Legs" (Fox). Second Loop run. Booked for entire week after Minnesota and Uptown; will do close to $2,500, very good. Last week "Women of All Nations" (Fox), first half, and "Secret Six" (M-G) last half; around $1,300, pretty good.

### Epic's 1st Exchange

Talking Picture Epics opened their first exchange in New York last week with Bill Raynor in charge

# Off Nights Keep "Huck Finn," Matinee Smash, From Record; Chi Finds "Mary Ann" a Relief

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Flock of new pictures in the loop this week, with several switches due in the run houses in mid-week. Though competition in the loop is keen, business continues generally good. Pictures that are feeling the pace are those which are going into extended runs.

Two events indicate slight effects on loop box offices. One is the presence of the Barnum-Ringling circus in Grant Park for nine days. The other is the shut-down of 100 Allied neighborhood theatres; which is likely to show little help to the loop spots, but bound to boost the circuit neighborhooders.

Oriental continues to satisfy for the second consecutive week, bringing hope after a poor summer. Currently "Night Nurse" and looks easily capable of lifting house out of the red. At other deluxer, the ace Chicago, there are worries. "Transatlantic" is not living up to expectations, though notices were fine.

"American Tragedy," after many false starts, gets going at the United Artists Tuesday (11) at 12 o'clock. Noon opening figured to bunch patronage enough to provide a street hold-out, and so gather some plugging by inference. Another run house changing product in midweek is the State-Lake, which is bringing in "Dirigible" Wednesday (12). This flicker was at the legit Apollo, but will need and get an entire new ad campaign.

Matinees are running far ahead of evenings on attendance, which is showing its effect on the grosses. Seen particularly in films like "Merely Mary Ann" at the McVickers and "Huckleberry Finn" at the Roosevelt. "Finn" held 'em out from the start on the afternoons, and had the nights kept up proportionately, would have meant a new high.

As it is, the house will provide an excellent first week gross, but no world-beater.

### Estimates for This Week

**Apollo** (Shubert) (1,200; 50-75)—"Russia—Five-Year Plan" (Amkino). Freak crowd, with little general interest in the news reel film. About $3,000 the first week; under that this week.

**Chicago** (Publix-B. & K.) (4,000; 50-75-85) — "Transatlantic" (Fox), and stage show. Fanchon and Marco units now on the stage, but no mention in the ads. Picture not up to early hopes. Good reviews. Total going to likely $35,000. "Magnificent Lie" (Par) surprised last week, coming through with good $40,900.

**McVickers** (Publix-B. & K.) (2,200; 50-75-85)—"Merely Mary Ann" (Fox). Gaynor-Farrell got away cleanly, with the romantic idea hitting nicely after a succession of guns and hot love reels. Opener indicates satisfaction at $34,000. "Public Enemy" (WB) followed the rule of gangster films locally; going big the first week, but caving in immediately after satisfying that portion of the population that likes machine gun epics. Second and closing week was badly off at $11,100.

**Oriental** (Publix-B. & K.) (3,200; 50-75-85)—"Night Nurse" (WB). Stage show. It's the picture currently, and from all signs, figures for another jump at the front window. Bettering many previous grosses at probable $30,000. Last week Alice White in person and "Newly Rich" (Par) got good $27,800.

**Palace** (RKO) (2,300; 50-75-85)—"Public Defender" (Radio). Vaude. For the first time in months, the picture goes above the stage show in the ad billing. Harriet Hoctor, headliner, not well known to the average fan locally. Theatre's steady draw should hold to $24,000. Last week, "Ex-Bad Boy" (U) and Bessie Love on stage not stronger than fair $21,300.

**Roosevelt** (Publix-B. & K.) (1,500; 50-75-85) — "Huckleberry Finn" (Par). Natural for the kids, who are flocking down on the afternoons. Night marauders, however, are ankling to flickers with more s. a. But all totalling to fine opening gross at $20,000. "Politics" (M-G) closed its third week in loop to ho-hum $7,600.

**State-Lake** (RKO) (2,700; 50-75-85)—"Common Law" (Pathe). Excitement over and slump set in. After explosive opener at tremendous $34,400; ran into a nose-dive. Goes out Wednesday (12), with this second week not likely to mean more than weak $11,000. "Dirigible" (Col) for first pop loop run here.

**United Artists** (Publix-UA) (1,700; 50-75-85)—"Son of India" (M-G). Served its purpose as a filler on wait for "American Tragedy" (Par), which comes in Tues. (11) at noon. "India" was a b. o. surprise at satisfying $24,800 for opener. Currently indicates a full drop to $10,000

## 'Common Law' Easily Fronts in Pitt at Stanley on $27,000

Pittsburgh, Aug. 10.

**(Drawing Population, 1,000,000)**

Penn had it all last week with "Politics," but now it's the Stanley's turn with "Common Law." Women outnumbering men 10 to 1 at latest Bennett picture and femmes expected to put it across to profitable $27,000.

"Son of India" likely to prove only moderate at the Penn this week, with little likelihood of pulling much more than $19,500, if that. "Smiling Lieutenant," penciled into the Warner for a fortnight, should march through to a neat $16,000 on first week. It's the first Par picture to play a WB site here in more than a year.

Some activity expected within the next few weeks in first-run sites which have been down to summer. Of Aldine, Davis and Fulton, dark now for weeks, Fulton alone looks like a possibility to reopen shortly, house having been definitely reported as taken over from Shea-Behman by Loew's. Aldine is to become a burlesque site, while the Davis is an unknown quantity.

### Estimates for This Week

**Harris** (WB) (1,800; 10-20-30-40). Double feature, "Laugh and Get Rich" (Radio), and Ken Maynard western. Usual combo here likely to claim average $2,000. Last week "Sweepstakes" (Pathe) about same.

**Penn** (Loew-UA) (3,300; 25-35-60-75)—"Son of India" (M-G) and stage show. Novarro film hardly more than moderately appealing and will be lucky to wind up with $19,500, poor. Last week "Politics" (M-G) mopped up at $39,000, breaking house attendance record though not b. o. top; mark held by another Dressler-Moran offering, "Caught Short."

**Sheridan Square** (RKO) (1,800; 10-15-25-35-50)—"The Runaround" (Radio). No cast names and weak color comedy doesn't stand much chance of bettering poor $2,600. Last week "Sweepstakes" (Pathe) around $3,000.

**Stanley** (WB) (3,600; 25-35-60)—"Common Law" (Pathe) and stage show. Cricks didn't give this one a thing but women flocking; should see a very nice $27,000. Last week "Public Defender" (Radio) down to slightly under $20,000.

**Warner** (WB) (2,000; 25-35-60)—"Smiling Lieutenant" (Par). Rave notices and expected to touch $16,000 or above, good; first week of fortnight engagement. Last week, second of "Dirigible" (Col), down to a bad $5,000

## 'Dirigible' Strong $11,000; 'Lie' $17,000–Indianapolis

Indianapolis, Aug. 10.

**(Drawing Population, 450,000)**

All photo houses started off well this week despite the continued heat wave. Vaude and unit shows were cut out last week at the Lyric and Indiana, respectively. Good notices from critics and extreme exploitation are expected to make "Dirigible" the best in town, with "Magnificent Lie" second.

Beverly Bayne is here for one week of stock.

### Estimates for This Week

**Indiana** (Publix) (3,300; 25-35-50)—"Magnificent Lie" (Par). Second in new fall season and expected to stir up $17,000; Chatterton appeal is strong here. Last week "Confessions of Co-Ed" (Par) down to $15,000. Stage units now out, also no organ or pit band.

**Circle** (Publix) (2,600; 50)—"Secret Call" (Par). Local angle because Stuart Walker directed, but won't help much; indicates weak $8,000. Last week "Broadminded" (FN) just fair at $7,000.

**Loew's Palace** (Loew) (2,800; 25-35-50)—"Five and Ten" (M-G). Chance to build to $7,000 despite heat. Last week "Politics" (M-G) started slowly but climbed to $7,000.

**Apollo** (Fourth Avenue) (1,100; 35-50)—"Young As You Feel" (Fox). Good for $6,800; Rogers fans legion here. Last week "Mother's Millions" same figure.

**Lyric** (Fourth Avenue) (2,600; (35-50)—"Dirigible" (Col). Good for $11,000 and no vaude; started by standing 'em in line.

**Ohio** (Publix) (1,400; 15-25)—"Smart Money" (WB). May get $1,000, unchilled house.

## 'TRANSATLANTIC' $23,000

**Okay in Washington—"Murder" Maybe $19,000 at Earle**

Washington, Aug. 10.

**(Drawing Population, 450,000)**

"Transatlantic" is doing right well by the Fox this week and ought to put together a snappy $23,000. The Earle and the Palace are just so-so.

Two outstanders last week. "Politics," at the Columbia, rocked into a $13,800 first week and is still present, while "Common Law" weathered its second week happily at Keith's.

### Estimates for This Week

**Columbia** (Loew) (1,232; 25-35-50)—"Politics" (M-G) (2d week). Looks around good $9,000 this week, on holdover after a first week to about a fine $13,800.

**Earle** (Warner) (2,244; 25-35-50-70)—"Murder by the Clock" (Par) and vaude. Mystery films have never been too hot around here and this one near $16,000, but that's not bad. Last week "Newly Rich" (Par), making a grand play for family trade, around $15,000.

**Fox** (Fox) (2,434; 15-25-35-50)—"Transatlantic" (Fox). Eddie Lowe can draw at this house and picture ought to see $23,000, good. Last week "Mad Moment" (Fox) nice on $21,000; house seems well set with product for next few weeks.

**Palace**—"Son of India" (M-G). Stands a chance for $19,000 this week, all right. Last week off a little at $17,600 on "Night Angel" (Par).

**Keith's** (RKO) (1,875; 35-50—"Miracle Woman" (Col) and vaude. Will possibly get near $8,500, fair. Last week, second of "Common Law" (Pathe), just under $8,000.

## 'Miracle, $40,000 Or More, Philly; Other Spots Oke

Philadelphia, Aug. 10.

With business considerably improved last week despite the terrific hot spell, managers are optimistic for a continuation of increased trade. The Mastbaum, for example, is off to a good start with "Miracle Woman" and $40,000 or better is indicated. A tricky advertising campaign hinting at sensationalism is figured as helping.

"Smiling Lieutenant" lived up to expectations at the Stanley in its first week, and unless the bottom drops out it should do $15,000 this week. That figure would warrant a third week—something the Stanley hasn't had in a long time.

"Magnificent Lie" is also believed a good box-office bet at the Fox despite some bad panning by the critics. House has had some exceptionally good Fanchon & Marco units lately and, with out-of-the-ordinary screen attractions, should begin to pick up. The Karlton and Earle also indicate healthy trade.

The one uncertainty these days is Keith's. One minute its announced as closing, the next to stay open. "Women Between" has been stumbling at this spot and house has again been rumored as giving up the summer competition. Now, however, "High Stakes" has been announced to follow.

### Estimates for This Week

**Mastbaum** (4,800; 35-50-75), "Miracle Woman" (Col) and stage show. Special ad campaign in regular news columns of dailies, hinting sensational features, figured as aiding; likely to ease a bit, but better than $40,000 indicated, nice. Last week "Politics" (M-G) just short of $14,000, excellent.

**Stanley** (3,700; 35-50-75), "Smiling Lieutenant" (Par). Chevalier picture touted to put house back in winning stride, and did; beat $20,000 by comfortable margin first week, and should do $14,000 or better this week; in that case, a third week.

**Fox** (3,000; 35-50-75), "Magnificent Lie" (Par) and unit. Ruth Chatterton following expected to help though panned by cricks; maybe $25,000 if it can hold up. Last week "Holy Terror" (Fox) quiet at $22,000.

**Stanton** (1,700; 25-65), "Dirigible" (Col). Opened last Tuesday and $4,500 first three days; $7,500 indicated for next six.

**Earle** (2,000; 25-65), "Their Mad Moment" (Radio) and vaude. Should pull a nice $19,000 on vaude help. Last week $22,000 with "Public Defender" (Radio).

**Karlton** (1,000; 50), "Politics" (M-G). Moved down from Mastbaum and maybe $6,500 or $7,000. Last week "Common Law" (Pathe) $6,000.

**Arcadia** (800; 50), "Secret Call" (Par). About $2,750, fair. Last week "I Take This Woman" (Par) $2,500.

**Keith's** (1,800; 35-50-75), "High Stakes" (Radio). Doubt about this booking up to last moment; not more than $10,000 likely. Last week "Woman Between" (Radio) poor at $7,500.

# 'Finn' Must Spurt for $50,000, Roxy Light on Rogers' $70,000; 'Witness' Big, $37,000 2d Week

## 'Lieut.' $21,000, and 'Nurse' $15,000 in 2 Houses—Balto. Okay

Baltimore, Aug. 10.

Heat has been consistent and terrific here for weeks, but the fact that a house with a cooler can beat it was demonstrated by the Stanley, where "Politics" hung up a mid-summer record for the town last week.

The Keith Metropolitan hookup went into effect this week with "Night Nurse" day and dating. Probable that usual booking will go to Keith's for first run with uptown Met as the follow-up. Sexy slant of this one being featured and no doubt counted on to justify the simultaneous showing.

### Estimates for This Week

**Century** (Loew)—"Murder by the Clock" (Par) (3,200; 25-60). Some good advance pub and looks like a good if not big week; perhaps a good $19,500. Last week "Sporting Blood" (M-G) clicked for a very good $20,500; house now has garage hookup for parking by customers.

**Stanley** (Loew-Stanley-Crandall)—"Smiling Lieutenant" (Par) (3,600; 25-60). Good spot for Chevalier film and should do at least $21,000 this week, maybe better. Last week "Politics" (M-G) was a b. o. panic despite the heat; played to what is probably best midsummer gross at $27,000.

**Valencia** (Loew-UA)—"Die Forsterchristl" (1,200; 25-35). Foreign film will get class draw of Little Theatre type, but hardly expected to turn in anything handsome; maybe a pretty fair $3,000. Last week "Reckless Hour" (FN) felt stiff competition and only $3,100.

**Parkway** (Loew-UA) — "Magnificent Lie" (Par) (1,000; 25-35). Chatterton film failed to turn in anything handsome at the big Stanley and not looked to be strong here; a fair $3,500, if that. Last week "Son of India" (M-G) disappointment; $3,600.

**Keith's** (Shanbergers) — "Night Nurse" (WB) (2,500; 25-50). Heavy on advertising playing up sexy side; popularity of Clark Gable a factor; should get a good $9,500. Last week "Public Defender" (Radio) around $7,000.

**Metropolitan** (Warners) — "Night Nurse" (WB) (1,300; 25-50). Day and dating with downtown Keith's under new arrangement whereby Keiths' becomes WB's first run house in town; maybe a good $5,500. Last week "Quick Millions" (Fox) (1,400; 25-50). Should be around $7,500, okay. Last week "Woman Between" drew mixed notices and just fair business, $6,500.

## COLUMBUS GIVES $6,000 FOR "LAW" AT PALACE

Columbus, Aug. 10.

**(Drawing Population, 475,000)**

Looks as though the old town has kicked Mr. Depression where it'll do the most good. Populace has forgotten all about the heat wave and is buying better than ever at this time of year. Extra heavy ads and exploitation should be given plenty of credit for bringing 'em in.

Palace is on the way to its best in some time with "Common Law" Newsboys' calls of "Hattie Burns Elected," up and down main stem, did plenty for "Politics" last week.

### Estimates for This Week

**Palace** (RKO) (3,000; 25-50)—"Common Law" (Pathe). On way to good mark of $6,000. Last week "Miracle Woman" (Col) proved hard to sell, but did $4,000.

**Ohio** (Loew-UA) (3,074; 25-50)—"Just a Gigolo" (M-G) and unit. Has benefit of censor fight and is right for $12,500. Last week "Sporting Blood" (M-G) fell off at close to take just $12,200.

**Broad** (Loew-UA) (2,500; 25-50)—"Smiling Lieutenant" (Par). Off to punch start but star doesn't rank top locally; about $11,500. Last week "Politics" (M-G) turned 'em away at $14,250.

**Grand** (Neth) (1,100; 25-50)—"Broadminded" (FN). Not so good for the natives and $3,000 probable. Last week "Children of Dreams" (WB) closed at $2,600.

**Majestic** (RKO) (1,100; 15-30)—"Honeymoon Lane" (Par). Problematical due to full week at usual split week house; hardly better than $2,000. Last week, "Holy Terror" (Fox) and "Lawless Woman" good for $2,200.

Broadway business is thin this week in most spots. Criterion's $10,700 on the first four days of "American Tragedy" and the Winter Garden having done $45,000 on the first week of "Star Witness," means that some are smacking down the heat. Latter looks like a follow-up of $37,000. Any kind of a break in the weather will help the lighter features. Middle of last week was torrid and a humid Sunday hurt in many spots for current features.

Capitol on its second stanza with "Politics" seems headed for around $53,000, while the Roxy will be just ordinary with "Young as You Feel" at $70,000. Figure is weak for Rogers. "Huckleberry Finn," at the Paramount, will run under $50,000 currently unless it picks up briskly. Daily reviewers hailed this one as well as Rogers.

"Street Scene," which United Artists has pencilled in instead of "Unholy Garden," comes into the Rivoli this month and "Bought" (WB) reopens the Hollywood this Friday (14). Rialto now playing revivals will shove over to its former long-run policy with "Monkey Business" the new Four Marx Brothers picture in about a fortnight.

Other changes on the streeet concern the Warner theatre which will go for the daily change route for revivals next week. Two Columbia pictures also due on Broadway as "Miracle Woman" heads into the Mayfair and "Men Are Like That" goes into the Strand.

### Estimates for This Week

**Astor** (1,120; $1-$2), "Free Soul" (M-G), (11th week). Still holding on but likely out the middle of the month.

**Capitol** (5,400; 25-85-$1.50), "Politics" (M-G), (2nd week), stage show. Probably around $53,000 on hold over. Last week this Dressler-Moran picture claimed $78,300.

**Criterion** (830; $1-$2), "American Tragedy" (Par). Reached $10,700 first four days in non-cold house; received mixed opinions from critics and recent Dreiser-Par controversy publicity no doubt helping.

**Mayfair** (2,200; 40-$1), "Traveling Husbands" (Radio). Weak at $15,000 pace. Last week "Public Defender" (Radio), $22,300, fair.

**Paramount** (3,664; 65-85-$1), "Huckleberry Finn" (Par) and unit. Puzzling as house must sprint to beat $50,000 after good sendoff by critics; Brooklyn day and dating may be hurting, indicated by Publix changing twin date policy soon. Last week "Honeymoon Lane" (Par) low at $46,200.

**Rialto** (2,000; 25-40). Goes back to first runs with "Monkey Business" (Par), about the middle of month; revivals still current and $5,800 top so far with "Bulldog Drummond" (UA), "Welcome Danger" (Par), and "Flight" (Col).

**Rivoli** (2,200; 40-65-85-$1) "Smiling Lieutenant" (Par), (5th week). Hitting for $18,000 and fair considering the length of the run after playing Criterion. Last week, $20,200; "Street Scene" (UA) next.

**Roxy** (6,200; 50-75-$1.50), "Young As You Feel" (Fox). Will Rogers at $70,000 not a very heartening figure. Last week "Transatlantic" (Fox), $85,000 on eight days, pretty good.

**Strand** (2,900; 25-50-75), "The Runaround" (Radio). Down to poor $13,000. Last week "Reckless Hour" (FN), hit a fair gait at $20,300 but that's good for Dorothy Mackaill at this spot.

**Warners** (1,100; 50-75) "Immortal Vagabond" (Ufa), (2nd week). German made English talker, too slim at $1,500. Last week $2,400; house goes daily change with revivals next week.

**Winter Garden** (1,418; 35-85-$1), "Star Witness" (WB) (2nd week). Hit film slated for $37,000 after a big $45,000 opening week; on comparative basis best business on the street.

## Tacoma Rialto $4,000

Tacoma, Aug. 10.

**(Drawing Population, 125,000)**

A little off this week following good stanza which had many gobs in town with the fleet.

### Estimates for This Week

**Orpheum** (RKO) (1,500; 25-35-40-60), "Woman of Experience" (Pathe) and "Reckless Hour" (FN), split with vaude. Running to do $4,000.

**Blue Mouse** (Hamrick) (650; 25-35-50), "Finn and Haddie" (Par). An old one for $2,500. Last week "Night Nurse" (WB) did one of best weeks of the year at $4,000.

**Rialto** (Fox) (1,200; 25-50), "Smiling Lieutenant" (Par). Very fine at $4,000.

# Fox Drops as Other Film Stocks Hold Even—Par Is Unchanged as Board Votes

Another inconclusive session yesterday (Mon.), close to the minimum of 700,000 shares and devoid of indications for the future. Prices gave way in the early trading under the influence of a slump in cotton, due to the new estimate of a huge surplus crop, but firmed in the last hour and finished almost unchanged.

In order to hold its own in the net result, the market had been compelled to stand off new weakness in the railroad shares besides the upset in cotton which broke more than $6 a bale to new lows below 7 cents a pound.

The amusement stocks made a good appearance. Paramount ruled close to former levels, showing only minute concessions from the level of 23, showing plainly that the impending dividend action had been discounted. The directors met at 3:30 after the close so that the result did not become known during trading. Directors voted one-fourth share in stock for the quarter, about maintaining the $2.50 annual rate at current prices.

Fox broke further in volume, going to a new bottom on the movement at 11⅞ only ¼ away from its all-time low established in May of this year, the dealings being characterized by a succession of blocks of 2,000 close to the low.

New unsettlement in Fox was preceded around 1 o'clock by a similar flurry in General Theatres, which broke suddenly to a new low for all time at 2⅞, the first trade at that price being 3,000. Theatres went through the rest of the day fairly active and without recovery, while support came into Fox and rallied it to around 12½ before the gong.

The General Theatres preferred on the Curb paralleled the common on the Big Board, going to 3⅛, also a bottom since the listing. The company's bonds were reactionary, starting at 20 and selling off to 18¼, at which level they were but a fraction away from last week's minimum. Close brought a minor rally to 19⅞. Sales were comparatively large, totalling around $50,000.

RKO did rather better than it has lately, displaying a tendency to firm up when offerings relaxed Close here was fractionally higher net at 13⅜. Eastman Kodak went dull on reactions, but finished up quiet and easier off 1½ at 134.

Except for General Theatres bonds were dull and unchanged to firm.

### Fox Disturbs Group

The amusement stocks held their ground stubbornly through the bad news of the early part of last week, but gave way later on when a sharp break in the Fox coterie introduced a disturbing element, ending the week, however, with only fractional losses in the active issues, and generally defending previous resistance levels in a good deal better shape than the generality of the Stock Exchange list.

For instance, the industrial table was speckled with new lows for the year and the entire bear market, and the principal railroad shares broke through their old lines of defense, apparently headed for new lows, while the theatre stocks, with the exception of Fox and General Theatres, stood well above earlier price valleys of the spring and summer.

The extreme low of the week for Loew was 44¼, nearly 3 points above the momentary bottom of a few weeks ago and well protected from the low of the cycle, around 36 early in June. Paramount turned dull on an organized defense close to 23, and Warner Bros. seemed to be almost pegged within a fraction of 7. RKO wavered somewhat, easing close to the 13 mark, but on volume so insignificant that it carried small weight.

In the absence of any substantial turnover among the film stocks, or any other for that matter, the weakness in Fox and its allies was the feature. Volume here climbed to the respectable total of 91,000 shares in the six trading days, and appeared to represent definite liquidation from informed sources to discount possibilities of dividend rate revision. Action in General Theatres, of course, reflected the position of that concern in respect to a dividend change in Fox. Marking down of prices was particularly drastic in this quarter, with both the listed stocks crashing to new lows for all time, and the bonds breaking to 18 and ending the week at 20 for a net loss of 10 points. At such levels it goes without saying that the bonds have pretty well discounted something drastic with reference to the Fox dividend, for it is the film company disbursements that are looked to to cover interest on the security.

### Yesterday's Prices

| Sales. | | High. | Low. | Last. | Net chge. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 100 | Am. Seat... | 4¼ | 4¼ | 4¼ | + ¼ |
| 500 | Cons. Film. | 7⅜ | 7⅛ | 7⅛ | − ¼ |
| 3,700 | Eastman K. | 134¾ | 133 | 134 | −1½ |
| 32,100 | Fox ..... | 12⅞ | 11⅞ | 12⅜ | − ⅝ |
| 36,200 | General Th. | 2½ | 2⅛ | 2⅛ | − ½ |
| 2,700 | Loew ..... | 44⅞ | 44½ | 44½ | − ¼ |
| 2,800 | Par-P. ..... | 23 | 22½ | 22¾ | − ⅛ |
| 300 | Pathe A.... | 5½ | 5½ | 5½ | − ¼ |
| 9,000 | RCA ..... | 17½ | 17⅛ | 17½ | |
| 4,800 | RKO ..... | 13⅜ | 13 | 13⅜ | + ⅛ |
| 2,100 | W. B..... | 7 | 6⅞ | 7 | |
| | CURB | | | | |
| 200 | Col. P..... | 10 | 10 | 10 | |
| 1,400 | Fox T..... | 2⅝ | 2⅛ | 2⅛ | − ⅛ |
| 5,800 | Gen. T. pf.. | 3⅝ | 3⅛ | 3½ | |
| 100 | Tech. ..... | 6½ | 6½ | 6½ | |
| 600 | Trans-L. ... | 5 | 4⅞ | 5 | + ¼ |
| | BONDS | | | | |
| $49,000 | General Th. | 20 | 18¼ | 19⅞ | − ⅛ |
| 1,000 | Keith ..... | 67 | 67 | 67 | |
| 21,000 | Par-P. ..... | 78½ | 76½ | 76½ | − ½ |
| 2,000 | Pathe ..... | 92¼ | 92¼ | 92¼ | − ¾ |
| 17,000 | W. B..... | 44⅛ | 43⅝ | 44⅛ | + ½ |

### Others Fare Better

Loew's performance provided the brighter side of the picture, even after giving due consideration to the report that it was under guidance of a new pool. Low price for the week was 44¼, even under pressure of the enormous amount of bad news that came out, confirming the inference of a month ago that the stock had gradually sifted down during the summer into strong hands. Besides which the technical situation surrounding the issue makes it almost impregnable against bear attack.

A rather favorable angle on amusement stocks generally was the way Paramount was able to stand up against the new dividend development, making it practically certain that when the directors met yesterday (Monday) for dividend action, they would vote for payment in stock rather than continue the rate of $2.50. The story in circulation all last week forecast such action. Desirability of conserving cash resources and the bond provision calling for a certain ratio of working capital to current liabilities argued a stock payment anyhow. While the debenture provision forbids cash dividends when the ratio is disturbed, it specifically permits payments in stock.

The week's turnover of only 22,000 shares makes it apparent that there was no large amount of weakly-held stock being forced out, and a net loss of only half a point seems to prove that long stock is well concentrated.

### RKO Gives Ground

With its rather unfavorable second-quarter income statement just announced, RKO was in no position to resist the downward trend in all parts of the list and the intensified bearish sentiment developing in Wall Street on prices for the next few weeks. The stock slipped off slowly, but as in the case of some others, dealings were in such small volume that the movement was robbed of its sting. If prices must decline in special stocks, at least there is some encouragement for longs in absence of volume suggesting urgent retreat. That's the only encouragement a good many longs are getting just now.

Elsewhere among the theatre stocks there was little outstanding. Universal first preferred went through some startling gyrations. Starting the week at a new high of 56, profit taking came in, and realizing on a few trades apparently scared out a few speculative adventurers.

The price nose dived on a few minimum lots to 35, and then recovered on rather larger transactions to 42, where the week ended for a net loss of 13 points, the only major decline, aside from Fox, in the group.

Among the minor stocks, Trans-Lux Daylight Pictures struck a new low since listing on the Curb at 4⅝ on the sizeable turnover of 4,300 shares, probably the aftermath of too enthusiastic touting last spring when the venture was undertaken.

Pressure against secondary issues showed unexpectedly in Columbia, where some volume appeared in the voting trust certificates. Sales of 1,600 for this usually quiet issue probably represented the discouraged selling of outsiders. The stock has been extremely inactive, being closely held and devoid of any campaign to put it in the spotlight.

Aside from the bad break in General Theatres bonds, the fixed income group did well in a quiet way. The Pathe bonds spurted 3 points to 93, profit taking having been completed and the clique continuing its campaign. Loew was practically unchanged; the old Paramount bonds gained a fraction and the newer issue eased a little over a point. Shubert bonds were back at 10 flat for a loss of 1½. Warners gained a half on the respectible total of $102,000.

### Street Pessimistic

The Street has reverted to pessimism for the immediate future. At the Saturday close the "Herald Tribune" averages had got back to almost a double bottom at the level established in the secondary reaction of June 18. Question was, could it stage a rebound from there, or would it continue on down to test the extreme lows of June 2. In the face of restricted business, the Street was inclined to look for a gradual decline lasting for a week or two, during which the absolute bottoms would be approximated, with outside buying encouraged to come in at those levels to try for a fall revival.

Thereafter, if general business showed a satisfactory pickup, it was deemed probable that there might be a sustained recovery running into October, and perhaps representing gains of 15 to 20 points in the market indexes.

**Summary for week ending Saturday, Aug. 8:**

### STOCK EXCHANGE

| 1931 High. | 1931 Low. | Sales. | Issue and rate. | High. | Low. | Last. | Net chg. for wk. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 4½ | ..... | American Seat..... | .. | .. | 4¼ bid | |
| 15 | 3¾ | 1,800 | Consol. Film..... | 8 | 7⅜ | 7⅜ | − ⅛ |
| 18⅞ | 10½ | 400 | Consol. Film pfd. (2)..... | 14⅜ | 14 | 14⅜ | + ⅝ |
| 185¾ | 118 | 20,100 | Eastman Kodak (8)..... | 139⅝ | 132⅝ | 135½ | −1 |
| 38⅜ | 11⅝ | 91,300 | Fox, Class A (2.50)..... | 16¼ | 12⅛ | 13 | −2⅝ |
| 54¾ | 36 | 70,300 | Gen. Elec. (1.60)..... | 41¼ | 39 | 39 | −1¼ |
| 15½ | 2⅛ | 41,400 | Gen. Thea. Eq. n..... | 3¾ | 2½ | 2⅝ | −1 |
| 95 | 70 | ..... | Keith pref. (7)..... | .. | .. | 70 bid | |
| 63½ | 36⅛ | 28,200 | Loew (3)..... | 47⅝ | 44¼ | 44¾ | −1¾ |
| 98 | 83 | 100 | Do pref. (6½)..... | 92⅛ | 92⅛ | 92⅛ | +1¾ |
| 7½ | 5 | 600 | Madison Sq. Garden (60)..... | 5½ | 5 | 5½ | − ½ |
| 27 | 22 | 300 | Met-G-M pref. (1.89)..... | 25 | 25 | 25 | − ⅛ |
| 75 | 35 | 150 | Orph. pref. (8)..... | 45¾ | 44½ | 45 | − ½ |
| 50¼ | 19⅝ | 21,200 | Paramount ..... | 24⅛ | 22⅝ | 22⅞ | − ½ |
| 2⅞ | 1 | 3,000 | Pathe Exchange..... | 1⅝ | 1⅜ | 1⅜ | − ¼ |
| 8⅜ | 3 | 1,100 | Pathe, Class A..... | 6¼ | 5¾ | 5¾ | − ½ |
| 27½ | 12 | 96,800 | Radio Corp..... | 18⅜ | 16¾ | 17½ | |
| 24½ | 11¼ | 18,400 | RKO ..... | 14⅝ | 13⅛ | 13¼ | − ½ |
| 9¾ | 2⅝ | ..... | Shubert ..... | .. | .. | 3⅛ bid | |
| 56 | 24 | 70 | Universal pref. (8)..... | 57½ | 35¼ | 42 | −13 |
| 20⅜ | 4¾ | 41,600 | Warner Bros..... | 7½ | 6⅞ | 7 | |
| 40½ | 10¾ | ..... | Do pref. (3.85)..... | .. | .. | 16 bid | |
| 107¾ | 54¼ | 97,300 | Westinghouse (4)..... | 61½ | 57½ | 59⅛ | − ¼ |
| 5¼ | 2¼ | 900 | Zenith Radio..... | 2½ | 2¼ | 2¼ | − ¼ |
| | | | **CURB** | | | | |
| 23 | 8 | 1,600 | Columbia Picts., v.t.c. (1½+)... | 10 | 9 | 9¾ | −1¼ |
| 8⅛ | 1⅝ | 11,800 | De Forest Radio..... | 4½ | 3⅜ | 3⅝ | + ⅛ |
| 6⅛ | 2⅛ | 8,100 | Fox Theatres..... | 2½ | 2¼ | 2¼ | − ½ |
| 31¼ | 3½ | 38,400 | Gen. Thea. Eq. pf. (3½)..... | 6⅞ | 3½ | 3½ | −3⅛ |
| 15¼ | 3⅝ | 1,600 | Technicolor ..... | 7½ | 6½ | 6½ | − ½ |
| 13¼ | 4⅝ | 4,300 | Trans Lux..... | 5¼ | 4⅝ | 4¾ | − ½ |
| | | | **BONDS** | | | | |
| 74 | 18 | $60,000 | Gen. Thea. Eq. '40..... | 20⅛ | 18 | 20 | −10 |
| 78½ | 62 | 2,000 | Keith 6's, '46..... | 66 | 65½ | 67 | +1 |
| 99¾ | 94 | 9,000 | Loew 6's, '41..... | 98 | 97¼ | 97½ | − ¼ |
| 94⅞ | 51 | 34,000 | Pathe 7's, '37..... | 93 | 90 | 93 | +3⅝ |
| 97 | 74 | 18,000 | Par-Fam-Lasky 6's, '47..... | 90¾ | 86 | 86 | −1 |
| 89¾ | 67 | 34,000 | Par-Pub. 5½'s, '59..... | 79½ | 75½ | 77 | + ½ |
| 25 | 7 | 8,000 | Shubert 6's..... | 10 | 10 | 10 | −1½ |
| 74½ | 25 | 102,000 | Warner Bros. 6's, '39..... | 45¼ | 43⅝ | 43⅝ | + ½ |
| | | | **ISSUES IN OTHER MARKETS** | | | | |
| | | | **All Quoted for Saturday** | | | | |
| | | | **Produce Exchange, N. Y.** | | | | |
| .. | .. | ..... | Jenk Telev..... | .. | .. | 4⅝ bid | |
| .. | .. | ..... | Color Pict..... | .. | .. | 1 bid | |
| | | | **Over the Counter, N. Y.** | | | | |
| Bid. | Asked. | | | | | | |
| 12 | 14 | ..... | Roxy, Class A (3.50)..... | .. | .. | .. | |
| 12¼ | 14¼ | ..... | Unit do..... | .. | .. | .. | |
| ½ | 1½ | ..... | Unit do..... | .. | .. | .. | |
| 1 | 2 | ..... | De Forest Phono..... | .. | .. | .. | |

## $16,000 IN NEW HAVEN

**Big for "Liqut"—$5,900 for "Public Defender," Fair**

New Haven, Aug. 10.
**(Drawing Population, 300,000)**

Paramount went into its new season in a burst of glory and had the ropes up for the first time in weeks. "Smiling Lieutenant" is showing effects of intensive plugging and should top for the current week. New managers, Harvey Cocks at Paramount and Louis Labine at Roger Sherman, apparently believe in publicity, as newspaper space has taken a jump since their arrival.

Week was originally scheduled for switch of F-M units from Fox Poli to Paramount, but finds units sticking at Fox Poli with new type show brought into Par from Brooklyn.

**Estimates for This Week**

**Paramount** (Publix) (2,353; 65)—"Smiling Lieutenant" (Par) and unit. Will do fine $16,000. Last week "Murder by Clock" (Par), $12,200.

**Fox Poli** (Fox) (3,040; 65)—"Magnificent Lie" and unit. Will be mild at $10,000. Last week "Miracle Woman" (Col) slid to poor $9,300, despite favorable comment on film.

**Roger Sherman** (WB) (2,200; 50)—"Public Defender" (Radio). Will probably get a safe $5,900. Last week "Common Law" (Pathe) got nice $6,500.

**Bijou** (Fox) (1,536; 50)—"Ships of Hate" and "Dude Ranch." Off to $3,800 clip, satisfactory. Last week "Salvation Nell" and "Mother's Millions" dropped to quiet $3,200.

## 'BOUGHT' $22,000, BUFFALO

**'Viking' Oke at $6,500—Great States Shy of $18,000**

Buffalo, Aug. 10.

Cooler weather should improve grosses all around this week.

**Estimates for This Week**

**Buffalo** (Publix) (3,600; 30-40-65), "Bought" (WB). Should be around $22,000, good. Last week "Magnificent Lie" (Par), $20,400.

**Century** (Publix) (3,400; 25-35), "Murder by Clock" (Par). Maybe $8,000 this week, okay. Last week "Girl Habit" (Par) weak at $4,500.

**Hipp** (Publix) (2,400; 25-35-50), "Five and Ten" (M-G). Looks like fair $13,000 here. Last week "Black Camel" (Fox) $11,400.

**Great Lakes** (Fox) (3,400; 25-35-50), "Sporting Blood" (M-G). Probably under $18,000, not bad. Last week "Politics" (M-G) and Wesly Eddy on stage beat $27,000, great.

**Lafayette** (Ind) (3,400; 25), "The Viking" (Williams). Steady at $6,500. Last week "Lawless Woman" (Batch) over $6,000.

## Incorporations

### California

Sacramento, Aug. 10.

**Pacific Show Print Co., Ltd.**, Los Angeles County, capital stock $15,000, $30 subscribed. H. R. Johnson, H. C. Gund, E. F. McGurk.

**Patrician Pictures, Ltd.**, of L. A. County, capital stock $25,000, $30 subscribed. I. Meiliken, M. Ford, C. Irwin.

**Webb-Douglas, Ltd.**, of L. A. County, capital stock 1,000 shares, all subscribed. Harry S. Webb, F. S. Douglas, S. E. Gipperich. (Picture production.)

**Cinema Studios Supply Corp.**, of L. A., name changed to Cinema Studios Supply Corp., Ltd., and capital stock increased.

**Palace Building, Inc.**, Venice, Calif., name changed to Palace Company, Ltd., and capital stock increased.

## Sailors Help "Dirigible" In Seattle for $12,000

Seattle, Aug. 10.
**(Drawing Population, 500,000)**

With some 7,000 navy boys in town, "Dirigible," at the Orpheum, is well timed. In an airplane parade above the town. Orph had a plane carrying a big banner, "Dirigible," to just about steal the show.

Paramount, in its second week after the reopening, is still without F-M stage shows. Dispute still on with union, men also demanding band for Fifth Ave. Fox-West Coast opens its new Spokane theatre there Sept. 3 with Fanchon-Marco shows.

**Estimates for This Week**

**Paramount** (Fox) (3,106; 25-35-50), "Son of India" (M-G). Navarro played up and $9,500 okay, as nut lowered last week. Last week great with "Politics" (M-G) hitting $18,000.

**Fifth Ave.** (Fox) (2,500; 25-35-50), "Smiling Lieutenant" (Par). Going fine for indicated $14,000. Last week not so hot with "Magnificent Lie" (Par) $10,400, Chatterton saving.

**Music Box** (Hamrick) (950; 25-35-50), "Reckless Hour" (FN). Nice pace and should do $6,000. Last week "Broadminded" (FN) a scant $4,500.

**Liberty** (Jensen-von Herberg) (2,000; 15-30), "Children of Dreams" (WB). Headed to do $6,500. Last week "Way of All Men" did $5,700.

**Orpheum** (RKO) (2,700; 25-60), "Dirigible" (Col). Going very well and looks like $12,000. Last week "Common Law" (Pathe) fine on $13,000.

**Coliseum** (Fox) (1,800; 25-35), "Night Angel" (Par) and "Secret Call" (Par) split week. Even pace for $3,200. Last week "Party Husband" and "Man of World" to fair $2,900.

## Par's Statement

Paramount will pay its two and a half percent dividend in stock instead of cash. That's equal to one fortieth of a share on the common stock for each share held. It is payable Sept. 30. Basis is the calculated value of $25 per share of 3,100,000 or so shares outstanding. It means the creation of a new issue of around 77,500 shares.

In a statement issued by Adolph Zukor following the decision of the Board yesterday (10), the Paramount head cites earning for the first six months as partly estimated at $5,700,000. That's around $1.82 per share on outstanding stock. Company's cash balance as of June 30, 1931, is figured around $8,400,000. Bank loans outstanding on the same date are given as amounting to $5,000,000.

In paying off in stock Paramount is working in line with its customary conservatism of meeting certain extraordinary liabilities out of its current earnings. These amount to around $11,500,000 covering certain repurchase agreements on stock which Par made in certain theatre deals. Par made payment for these theatres in stock with the condition that it would repurchase this stock at $80 within a certain time. These obligations are now being met.

## GENERAL THEATRES GROUP

**Fourteen Different Firms — Some 100% Controlled**

Fox Film group of companies working under the single control of General Theatres run to around 14 concerns of major size. Practically all but three were in the fold before William Fox stepped out and the majority of which were acquired by him within a year of that event.

Directly subsidiary to G. T. E. is Fox Film, controlled by the former to the exent of 65%. Descendant from there are Fox Theatres, controlled 100%; Grandeure, 50%; National Theatre Supply, 90%; Mitchell Camera, 100%; Fox Metropolitan Theatres, Shine Circuit, United American Investment Corp., and 37½% of the Metropolis and Bradford Trust, of London, which in turn, controls British Gaumont.

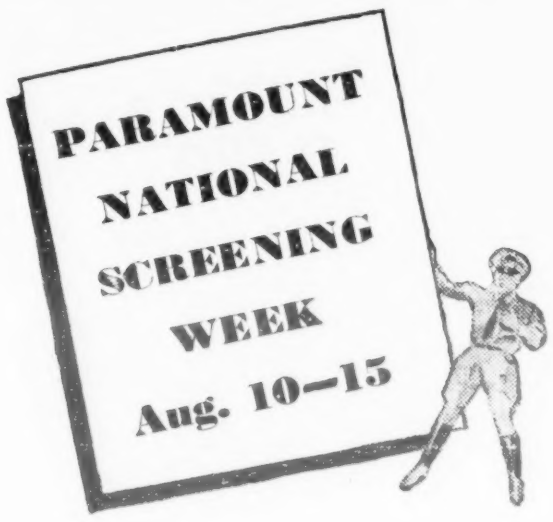
Fox also controls Hoyt's Australian Circuit. Among its most valuable properties are a 48% interest in the Loew Company, control of which has been shifted to Film Securities Corp., a new company of banker origin; the Wesco Corp., and Fox West Coast. Latter is owned 100%.

## Judgments

**Gene and Helen Buck**; Empire Trust Co.; $25,736.

**William Gerhardy**; Roman J. Irwin, Inc.; $1,007.

**Bedford Theatrical Transfer, Inc.**; C. J. Lazarro; $1,034.

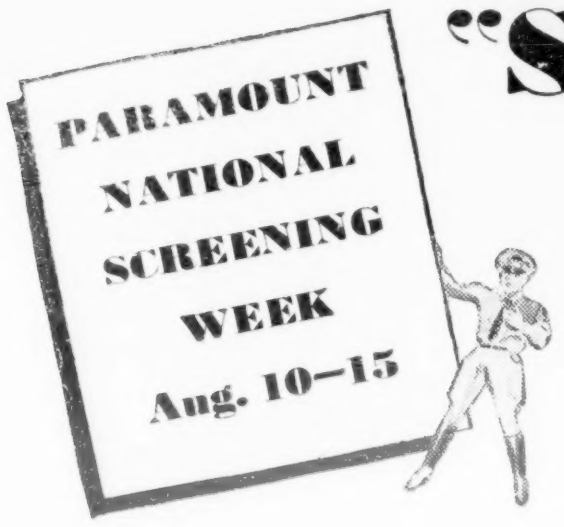



# This Week Hundreds* of Exhibitors Are Seeing at Paramount Exchanges Why the Whole Trade Agrees:

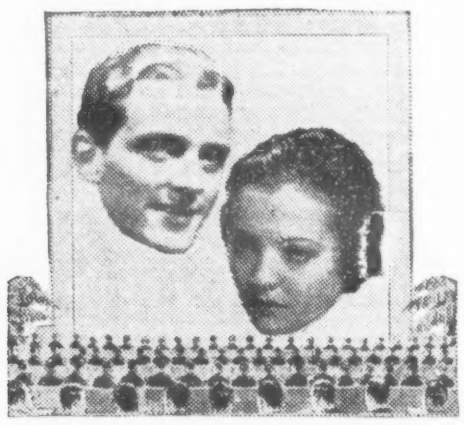
# IT'S A GREAT SEASON IF YOU'VE GOT PARAMOUNT!

•

**Actual acceptances from exhibitors to attend Paramount National Screening Week total over 1,200*



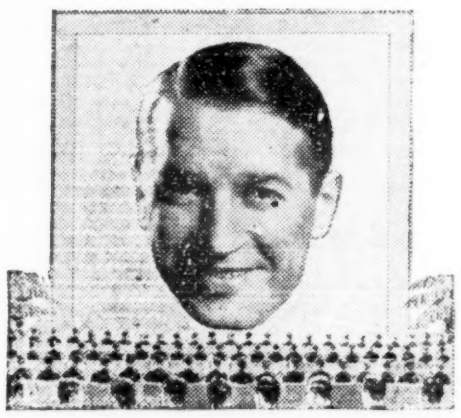

# "SHOW ME" SHOWMEN ARE GETTING THE INSIDE ON WHY . .



## .."AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY"

## is a Sensational $2 Hit on Broadway!

**Launched on sea of tremendous national publicity. Now mobs pack $2 Criterion, N. Y., and applaud. "Tense and moving, real, tremendously effective. Almost overwhelming power. A fine, *fine thing* Paramount has done. One of the best pictures of the year", says the N. Y. Sun. Typical review! Based on DREISER'S great novel, JOSEF VON STERNBERG'S superb production, with Phillips Holmes, Sylvia Sidney and Frances Dee; will be talked about for *years to come.***



## CHEVALIER-LUBITSCH

## .."SMILING LIEUTENANT"

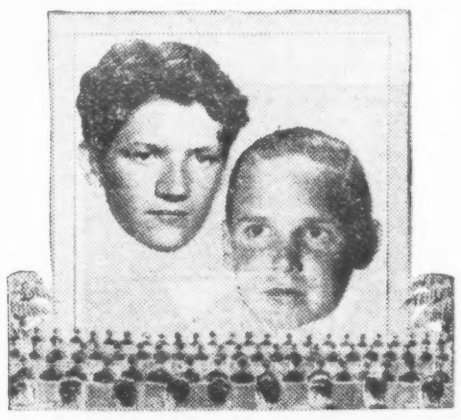
## in S. R. O. Sweep from Coast to Coast!

**By long odds the biggest box office hit in 2 years! Grosses prove it. N. Y., Los Angeles, Chicago, Kansas City, Dallas—name any town where it's played and it's a high record! With Claudette Colbert, Charlie Ruggles and Miriam Hopkins.**

# ..THE FOUR MARX BROS.

## "MONKEY BUSINESS" World's Greatest Comedy

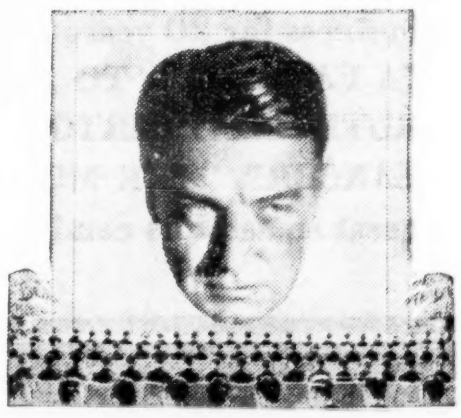
All Hollywood's raving about this show. The tip's out: GET IT! It'll make you more dough than you thought existed any more. Read any trade paper review of its preview showings. They're *all* raves. *Directed by Norman McLeod.*



# . . "HUCKLEBERRY FINN"

## Will Double "TOM SAWYER" Grosses Everywhere

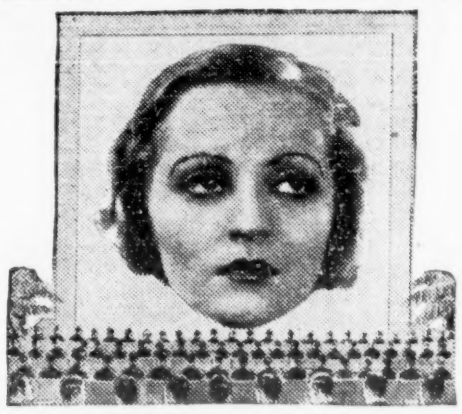
Don't take our word. See it for yourself. Then you'll agree. You're yelling for clean, wholesome pictures for the whole family. Here's the finest of them all. With the "TOM SAWYER" cast: Jackie Coogan, Junior Durkin, Mitzi Green, Jackie Searl plus Eugene Pallette. *Directed by Norman Taurog*, who made "SKIPPY".



# . . "SILENCE" *and* "SECRETS

## OF A SECRETARY" Will Boom Theatre Receipts

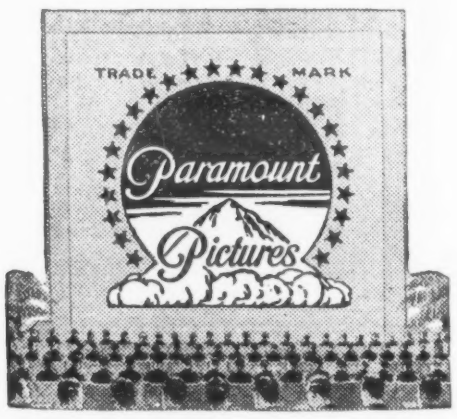
Two swell pictures, as every showman who's seen them enthusiastically agrees. "SILENCE", the mighty melodrama with Clive Brook, Marjorie Rambeau and Peggy Shannon. *Directed by Louis Gasnier and Max Marcin.* "SECRETS OF A SECRETARY", the drama of the girl who knew too much about millionaires, with Claudette Colbert, Herbert Marshall and Georges Metaxa. *Directed by Geo. Abbott.*



# . . A NEW STAR IS BORN

## as "MY SIN" Shows Real TALLULAH BANKHEAD with FREDRIC MARCH in Smashing Drama!

**Tallulah looking like a million dollars and acting like the superb trouper she is. March never better. Now you'll know why Tallulah took Europe by storm. A down-to-earth picture that the whole family will love. *Directed by Geo. Abbott.***




# . . "S.R.O. DAYS ARE HERE!"

## Cry Convinced Exhibitors as "THE HOUSE THAT SHADOWS BUILT", PARAMOUNT'S Outline of Entire 1931-2 Hits Unfolds to Delighted Eyes!

**Call it a trailer if you like. It's the *Visual Proof of Paramount's leadership* of this business for 20 years and the Preview of Paramount's Mightiest line-up of productions. "A FAREWELL TO ARMS", HAROLD LLOYD, GEORGE BANCROFT, "24 HOURS", RUTH CHATTERTON, CHEVALIER, "NO ONE MAN", "LIVES OF A BENGAL LANCER", "THE MIRACLE MAN", "DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE"—a hint of the great smash hits coming!**

# PARAMOUNT

## Proudly Proves Leadership with Product

## *"Let's Go, Show Business!"*

# 1,000% Film Tax Increase by Mexico, Except Upon Few Spanish Talkers; May Close All Mexican Theatres

Mexico City, Aug. 10.

Closing all picture theatres in Mexico within the next three weeks is considered as almost certain by local managers as a result of the new import duties on films. New taxes increase the tariff of non-Spanish talkers and discs from 7.50 pesos to 75 pesos ($37.50) per kilo.

Managers are frantically negotiating with the government to modify the tariff, but see very little hope ahead for the time being.

Duty boost generally means a discouragement of talkers, especially those in English.

Managers assert the new duty makes importation of film practically prohibitive, with exhibiting films also falling in that class. Practically all the small houses will have to close by the end of August, managers here figure, with a possibility of the bigger houses holding out about two or three months because of previously contracted product.

If a general closure goes through it would make 60,000 picture house workers in this country jobless and cost the government 4,000,000 to 5,000,000 pesos annually. That figure represents 10% tax on the average annual admission. Also the government would lose out on about 150,000 pesos now yearly received on duties on talkers under the old scale.

Mexican government's answer to all this is to function with Spanish talkers, with showmen pointing out this is impossible because of the lack of product and because of the predominance of English talkers.

# TRADE WORSE IN AUSTRALIA

Sydney, Aug. 10.

Things are growing increasingly impossible here all around, with the government at present unable to pay salaries to civil employees. Entire theatrical industry is suffering, along with the rest of biz down here.

Latest move on the part of the government figured to help it, is to jump the primage duty 6% more. That means foreign film distributors, Americans included, will have even harder sledding than previously.

# CHILEAN TAX DEMANDS MAY REACH UP TO 50%

Buenos Aires, Aug. 3.

While not very important from a present financial point of view, the news from Chile as affecting the picture interests is alarming owing to the fact that practically all the major companies are there. The news states that the Chilean Government proposals to increase cinema taxation in order to obtain increased revenue may mean a close-down by the industry owing to the impossibility of operating with the major taxes demanded.

The bill sent to congress proposes to increase by 10% the tax on admission which does not exceed 2 pesos (Chilear cy.), 15% on tickets exceeding 2 and not exceeding 4 pesos; 20% between 4 and 5 pesos; 30% between 5 and 6; 45% between 6 and 7 and between 7 and 8; and 50% on all tickets priced higher than 8 pesos.

While the Government claims that prices have risen immoderately the cinema owners retort that they were never so low; and prove this in an extensive memo addressed to the authorities pointing out that while the cost of films has increased enormously, and the old silents charged as much as 5.50 (pesos) for releases, today only the new real charges that rate, while the other first-runs charge 5 and 4.40, and 2.20 weekdays in the neighborhoods, with 3.30 for Sundays and holidays —the only days in which they work at all.

## U Financed in Germany

Berlin, Aug. 10.

Al Szekler, for Universal, (American) has concluded a contract with H. P. Carver and Sering D. Wilson of the International Film Productions G. m.b.H., according to which $450,000 is placed at the disposal of Universal for the production of 10 pictures.

On Aug. 15, the first film starts over here.

## Reception Cordial But French Paper Attacks Jeannette MacDonald

Paris, Aug. 10.

Jeannette MacDonald, scheduled to open at the Empire on Sept. 4, will not be able to play anywhere previous to that date. Management of the theatre paid her transportation and figures they ought to have her first.

Miss MacDonald's reception at the station on arrival was excellent, as is also the general press attitude. Only exceptions to that are "Comoedia," daily show paper, and the "Journal" columnist, both of whom are misinformed. They continue harping on a belief the American actress engineered the recent scandal about her over here for publicity purposes. Both suggest she's undesirable and ought not to be allowed to appear here. "Chicago Tribune," Paris edition, is taking an un-American attitude on the thing, reproducing the "Comoedia" comment.

Belgian and Italian Embassies have questioned the French government as to the likelihood of Miss MacDonald being eventually barred here, with the result a secret official investigation has been going on. This proved that the picture actress was the victim of an entirely imaginary scandal and is blameless.

# CHILE'S STUDIO HAS CARTOONIST AS HEAD

Culver City, Aug. 10.

Information here is that Jorge Denalo, Chilean newspaper cartoonist who was on the Metro payroll for eight weeks at $100 per to give advice on Spanish production, is heading the proposed studio being built near Santiago, Chile, for production of Spanish language pictures.

Studio is to cost $2,500,000, half of which, it is reported, is being supplied by the government. Remainder is a native stock proposition.

Talker equipment for the proposed plant is being bought in New York by the Chilean consul there.

## English "Film Daily"

London, Aug. 10.

Theatrical Enterprises, 1930, Ltd., subsidiary of Gaumont British, which owns "Era," theatrical newspaper, has just purchased "Film Daily," local publication. Paper will devote itself to GB activities solely from now on.

Ernest Fredman, former owner of "Film Daily" will remain in charge and also becomes managing editor of "Era," replacing Monty Leveaux.

"Era" has been steadily losing $2,500 or more weekly and 13 members of the staff were let go recently, that number including Mervyn McPherson, joint editor.

## Dutch Place Ban on Two German Pictures

The Hague, Aug. 10.

Dutch censor has gone to work on German films again with two of them banned. Films are "Und Das Ist Die Hauptsache" ("And That Is the Main Thing") (Mayfilm) and Arme Kleine Eva" ("Poor Little Eva") (Althofilm).

First named film was banned because of the story, considered improper here, of a husband and wife cheating on each other.

## Reported ATP Backers

London, Aug. 10.

Understood here that Courtaulds, artificial silk magnates, are backing Associated Talking Pictures, RKO's British producing outfit, to the extent of $2,500,000. That's for the purpose of building the new studios at Ealing.

Plant is expected to open next month with a Jack Buchanan film as the first picture.

Universal's British unit is set to start about the end of August, with the first year's schedule calling for serials exclusively. It's likely that it will use the British International studios.

# NEWSREEL FREE FOR RR DEPOTS WITH ADS

Paris, Aug. 10.

Pathe-Natan is contemplating putting its newsreel into railroad station waiting rooms for free showings. Advertising slides would be interpolated, to make the venture self-supporting.

A stunt is being worked by the newly opened Ford Newsreel theatre in supplementing the reels with shots taken by the theatre itself. Theatre has rented a local bootleg sound truck and hired a cameraman to run around getting local stuff. That allows for screening about four hours after events occur, which means beating the dailies.

Theatre's tieup with "Le Journal," newspaper, is also helping. Paper sponsors screening of some educational subjects, stills of which are used to illustrate the front page. Works out nice both ways.

## Public Prize Giving Idea by DeMille for Leaders in Talkers

Vienna, Aug. 10.

Cecil DeMille announced here yesterday that upon his return to Hollywood, he will propose a substantial yearly prize from the public to the leader in each of the arts in the making of talking pictures. Heretofore, said DeMille, this distinction has been bestowed by organizations or groups within the industry.

DeMille gave but a bare skeleton of his plan. It includes having the film experts on the foremost coast daily newspapers form a committee of selection. Prizes will be awarded each of the several names the committee will choose from the studio lists.

Each person selected will be given the choice of a medallion or other symbol signifying the award, with each symbol not to cost less than $5,000.

DeMille proposes to personally assume the entire cost of the annual award. He anticipates the cost will reach from $40,000 to $50,000.

London, Aug. 10.

Understanding here is that DeMille and Erik Hakim can't get together on DeMille making some English talkers. Deal is more or less set, but not clinched.

Joker seems to be, inside says, that Hakim wants DeMille to put up half of the production costs. DeMille is currently on the Continent.

# PROTEST IN FRANCE OVER ALIEN EXTRAS

Paris, Aug. 10.

Foreign picture extras narrowly escaped difficulties with the French government last week, similar to those now being undergone by foreign musicians. Trouble started when Osso Films employed a large number of exclusively foreign extras for a film, with French picture actors protesting to the labor department.

Paramount saved the situation by showing the government officials its books, which proved that a large majority of the extras employed by Par are Frenchmen.

# Best 25c Show in World Claimed for Australia, but Theatres Given No Help at the B. O.—No Dividend in '31

Sydney, July 11.

It's a hard winter over here. Business continues to grow worse.

Further tax burdens together with increasing unemployment are making a fight a tough one. But the managers are fighting all obstacles and hoping for a break from the Government.

Recently politicians attempted to introduce a bill forcing the public to pay as high as five shillings ($1.25) in every pound ($5) salary tax. Had this bill gone through, many theatres in New South Wales would have closed. A bill, however, has been passed, raising the primage duty from 2½% to 5%. This means the cost of foreign film importation has been doubled. The managers dare not pass the added tax on to the public.

Despite not one picture company here has paid a dividend this year, managements are still offering double-feature bills backed up with orchestras and presentations all the time. The boys back of the business just won't lay down. Once in a while a picture clicks strongly and runs up a score of several weeks to good business. But for every big success there are three failures.

### Crying Patriots

Ever since the slump hit Australia Hoyt's and Union Theatres have thrown all their resources into the battle for business. Today they are offering entertainment value that cannot be had anywhere else in the world at 25 cents admission.

Around the city a lot of self-styled patriots still cry for the life-blood of the picture industry. "Tax all picture theatres and stop America from sucking Australia dry" is the parrot-like cry of the ignorant.

Australian managements are struggling to provide the public with low priced entertainment whilst some of their own countrymen are trying to get a stranglehold and reduce a great industry into shambles.

## 7 English Pars

London, Aug. 10.

Paramount has decided to make seven more English films here this year. Decision came as result of the local success of "Those Charming People," Par's first British-made.

Jack Buchanan has been lined up to star in the next of the series with the cast including Norah Swinburne and Warwick Ward.

## U Shooting 'Yard' Serial in London With British Cast

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

After many delays and reconsiderations, Universal has finally decided to make its "Scotland Yard" serial in London instead of on the Coast.

Henry McRae, director, and Norman Lacey, production manager, are eastbound and will sail for London on the Aquitania Aug. 19. No players are being taken, as the entire cast will be selected in London.

# CHAPLIN SEEN AROUND WITH WEALTHY WIDOW

Paris, Aug. 10.

Charlie Chaplin is frequently seen around nowadays with the Duchess of Beaufort, a wealthy widow. Rumors spring from this, mentioning another Chaplin marriage prospect and especially since it is understood Chaplin states he does not care to return to America.

The Duchess is young and handsome. Her late husband, the Duc D'Beaufort, stood high in the French nobility and as one of the wealthiest. They were married about five years ago, with the Duc passing away two years ago.

There is a daughter, now three years old.

## Eye-Wash Relief

Paris, Aug. 10.

Request of legit theatre managers that the government alleviate their taxes has been more or less granted, but in appearance only.

Relief is in the form of an increase of the number of tax-exempt seats which the theatre is allowed to give away. Which means that it's called relief but it's really eye-wash.

## Foreign Talkers Do Best Now in Paris Theatres

Paris, Aug. 10.

Considerable tourist trade here now, with the theatres showing American talkers benefiting more than others. Grosses in these houses have gone up nicely.

English films, in the original, are doing well. "The Outsider," British made, is current at the Elysee Gaumont. Got rave notices.

## Jack Warner's Rest

Paris, Aug. 10.

Jack Warner is resting with his family in a French seaside resort, but will reach Paris soon.

No action will be taken by Warner while here on the French government's request to surpress "Fifty Million Franchmen," that being handled entirely from the New York end.

## HOFFBERG HANDLING LATIN

J. H. Hoffberg Co., New York, has taken over world distribution rights for Latin Productions, Ltd., of Hollywood. Latin is making a series of direct Spanish films in Hollywood.

First feature finished and ready for distribution is "Campanas de Capistrano." A pair of two reelers have also been completed.

# Italian Gov't Behind Operatic Film Movement

Rome, Aug. 10.

Corporation Dello Spettacolo is planning to go into production of talkers based on the better known Italian operas. Organization is the official government show business consortium, which means it would have government support.

Idea is to turn the operas into pictures in their entirety, retaining all the music and action as in the originals. Among the names mentioned for the project are Pericles Ansaldo and Commendatore Scotto.

It's an important move over here in lieu of what it might do to the European opera houses is successfully received.

Practically every small city in Italy, Germany and France has a full fledged opera house playing all the old line operas with, naturally, the many Italian operas being a portion of the programs.

Also there's the question of whether the governments, now backing most of the opera houses, will withdraw in favor of the film angle.

# ONE-MAN WALKOUTS AGAINST FOX DUBBING

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Fox experienced another one-man strike against synchronizations. Latest to quit on this issue is Cirict Ventallo, Spanish writer, who refused to translate dialog on a picture scheduled for dubbing.

Fox had a director walk for the same reason two weeks ago.

# Theatre Advertising as Indicated From Various Cities On Week Days

NEW YORK CITY

NEW YORK CITY

ST. LOUIS

NEW YORK CITY

## An Open Letter to District Attorney CRAIN: Police Commissioner MULROONEY:

**This is not a publicity stunt. It is not our idea to capitalize on one of the most unfortunate incidents that has happened to New York and America.**

**But because we, too, are aroused and appalled by the wholesale slaughter of little children**

**WE ARE READY TO PLACE IN YOUR HANDS, AND ARE FORCING AHEAD THE SHOWING OF THE PICTURE, "THE STAR WITNESS", WHICH, IN OUR ESTIMATION, IS**

**THE GREATEST INSTRUMENT FOR PUBLIC GOOD THAT HAS EVER BEEN DEVISED!**

**Months ago we foresaw this last terrible happening. Months ago we put our hearts and our hands to the task of finding some means of coping with the dread forces of the Invisible Empire to which our Nation has apparently capitulated —**

**And so we made THE STAR WITNESS — our answer — YOUR ANSWER — America's answer — to its greatest menace—to the ever present peril of life, liberty and pursuit of happiness.**

**We devoted a considerable sum to make this picture when we could have made a romantic picture according to established formula. — In THE STAR WITNESS we have a picture that will expose to every citizen just what is happening — just why the police are powerless to combat it— just why respectable eye witnesses to crime refuse to testify!**

**We are donating the opening night's (Monday, August 3rd at the Winter Garden Theatre, Broadway and 50th Street) proceeds to the families of these children. We know, however, that money cannot repay them for their losses, but because their plight is so great and their financial position possibly so limited that we should like to have them share with us some of the visible good that may come of such an enterprise.**

**MR. CRAIN AND MR. MULROONEY— WE FORESAW THIS TERRIBLE HAPPENING —WE UNDERSTOOD YOUR PROBLEMS AS "THE STAR WITNESS" WILL SHOW—WE OFFER IT TO YOU AS *YOUR* ANSWER — AMERICA'S THUNDERING ANSWER TO ITS GREATEST MENACE — WE OFFER IT TO YOU AS AN INSTRUMENT THAT WILL HELP YOU—THE NATION — THE REPUBLIC — TO ONCE AND FOR ALL TIME SOLVE THE TREMENDOUS PROBLEM OF STAMPING OUT GANGSTERS AND THEIR ILLICIT BREED.**

*Very truly yours,*
*THE MANAGEMENT*
Winter Garden Theatre

PHILADELPHIA

EARLE

11th & MARKET

Starting TODAY!

One of the HITS

New SHOW SEASON

HIS GREATEST TRIUMPH!

The Most Exciting Thrill Drama of the Season! Different! Daring! Electrifying!

RICHARD DIX

in R. K. O.-Radio Picture

"The PUBLIC DEFENDER"

Masked man of mystery brings gang of millionaire swindlers to justice! Thrill follows thrill as Dix battles police and defies death to aid a beautiful girl! Red-blooded action! Breath-taking every minute!

8 GREAT ACTS OF Vaudeville

The Famous Broadway Star! HERMAN TIMBERG

And His Comedy Company—A Laugh Riot!

JAY MILLS Buck for the World

Philly's Favorites! BOB CARNEY & JEAN, FRANSEY & ANGUS & ISABLE, SMITH & HART, JACK RAVOR, 4 FOLOS

DETROIT

TODAY! 50c—10:45 TO 4 P.M.

CHEVALIER AS YOU LOVE HIM -- IN HIS CROWNING ACHIEVEMENT --HIS MOST GLORIOUS SUCCESS!

He comes to capture the hearts of everyone . . . singing . . . laughing . . . loving in a gay and charming romance hit!

*The Screen's Most Fascinating Personality!*

MAURICE CHEVALIER

"The SMILING LIEUTENANT"

*The first of the 1931-32 Paramount hits with*

Claudette Colbert

MIRIAM HOPKINS—CHARLES RUGGLES

*Directed in gorgeous beauty by ERNEST LUBITSCH*
*Melodies written especially by Oscar Strauss*

Intimate with Chevalier love-making—sparkling with Chevalier laughter—rollicking with Chevalier songs!

*You'll laugh through your blushes at this audacious story of a gay heartbreaker whose sweetheart teaches his wife to make love!*

EXTRA—"House That Shadows Built"—Memories of Bygone Hits!

PARAMOUNT

BROADWAY AT GRAND CIRCUS PARK

NEW YORK CITY

At Both Cool and Comfortable Theatres

NEW YORK TIMES SQUARE and BROOKLYN FLATBUSH AT DE KALB

Paramount

New York's favorite son! —On Both Screens—

Eddie DOWLING in "Honeymoon Lane"

A Paramount Talent with Ray Dooley — Reynold Holden Starts FRIDAY! "HUCKLEBERRY FINN"

—On the Stage— NEW YORK Eddie DOWLING with RAY DOOLEY IN PERSON! J. FRED COOTS Gomez & Winona JESSE CRAWFORD RUBINOFF

—On the Stage— BROOKLYN "HABANERA" with 3 Great Orchs. DON AZPIAZU Havana Casino Orchestra Charlie Davis & Band Paramount Orch. AL TRAHAN

LOS ANGELES

FOX WESTY COAST THEATRES

SUPERLATIVE COMFORT AND ENTERTAINMENT

The Cowboy Now a Playboy

BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY AND LAUGH THE YEARS AWAY WITH

WILL ROGERS

YOUNG AS YOU FEEL

with FIFI DORSAY

LUCIEN LITTLEFIELD

A PARK FONTAINE PRODUCTION

FROM ELMER HARRIS FAMOUS PLAY

Grauman's CHINESE All Seats Reserved Oldsmobile Nite Mats. 50c Nights, Sat., Sun., 75c

Fox CRITERION GRAND AND SEVENTH Phone TU 5464 Continuous 11 A.M. to 11 P.M. 35c till 1 P.M.

ENDS TODAY! PANTAGES HOLLYWOOD MARION DAVIES in FIVE AND TEN

TOMORROW! Robert MONTGOMERY "The Man in Possession" Big New Stage Show!

PROVIDENCE

ONE WOMAN IN HIS ARMS-- *another in his heart!*

TWO FORCES SWAYED HIM....HIS UNQUENCHABLE LOVE...AND HIS SENSE OF HONOR. A PULSATING DRAMA OF PASSION'S CONQUERING SURGE!

BARGAIN MATINEES 10:30 to 1:00 25c-35c Children 10c 1:00 to 5:00 30c-35c Children 15c

CECIL B. DE MILLE'S "THE SQUAW MAN"

with WARNER BAXTER

and a distinguished METRO-Goldwyn-MAYER Cast

LUPE VELEZ—ELEANOR BOARDMAN

CHAS. BICKFORD — ROLAND YOUNG

METRONEWS—"MAURICE" "LOEW'S AUGUST PARADE OF HITS"

NEW! WORLD PREMIER Showing! HIT NO. 1

LOEW'S STATE

COOL — COMFORTABLE "Watch Loew's in August"

PORTLAND ORE.

The Finest Show Portland Has Seen This Season

STARTS TOMORROW

NOTED FOR HER BEAUTY...

She didn't care what people said ... as long as one man kept saying "I love you!" Her beauty made him the world's greatest artist ... and in winning a reputation for him, she gained one for herself!

Constance BENNETT

Matchless Star of "Common Clay" Reaches Greater Heights of Heart-Warming Romance in this New Human Drama.

"THE COMMON LAW"

25c Till One

with JOEL McCREA LEW CODY MARION SHILLING Robert Williams Hedda Hopper Paul Ellis

From the novel by Robert W. Chambers

A Charles R. Rogers Production

RKO-PATHE PICTURE

PLUS RKO VAUDEVILLE

Direct from Palace Theater, New York City.

LARRY RICH and His Oompahs

MARION SUNSHINE

The Girl Who Wrote "The Peanut Vendor"

EDLER & REED BROS. in "A Ways of Taps"

Ends Today! "3 WHO LOVED" Betty Compson—Conrad Nagel On the Stage Burns & Allen—Others

PHIL RICH "Old Man Cool"

RKO ORPHEUM

CHICAGO

PALACE

RANDOLPH AT LA SALLE

50¢ TO 5

(Opens 10:45)

TODAY!

She'll entertain you as she does the stars in Hollywood —singing, dancing, cutting "Broadway Melody" capers!

BESSIE LOVE IN PERSON!

Heading RKO Vaudeville With Billy Farrell and Dad

HOWARD, FINE & HOWARD

With Jack Walsh, Marjorie Maye

Thrills—Four Kadex—Thrills

—and—

HONORABLE MR. WU

AND HIS CHINESE COLLEGIANS

Screen-Lively Love Comedy!

Dizzy Complications, Spicy Revelations—One Big Howl!

"EX-BAD BOY"

With "That Funny Guy"—

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

Jean Arthur, Lila Lane, Jason Robards

He Learned About Women—AND HOW!

# EXPLOITATION

By Epes W. Sargent

### Build Up "Tragedy"

It will be some time before "An American Tragedy" gets its general showings, but it will come along in time. One of the best sales angles then will be what will mean money for the New York run, the Dreiser row with Paramount; whether Paramount improved or hurt the Dreiser book.

Try and get that argument into the local paper. If not, work it on the screen and by herald, but in either case offer prizes for the best letters supporting either view.

The matter is brought up now that you may get your clippings ready against the time needing them.

### Trick Window Sign

Most managers trust to flashers to get attention for window and lobby signs, and it is a reliable device; but there is an even better idea which for a time, at any rate, will get more attention, and yet it is very simply made.

A shadow box is built with a window backed by tracing cloth cut in to permit the showing of the title. This is in stencil which fits into a metal carrier made by a local tinsmith. It is backed by electric lights. This stencil is hinged at the base so that it will drop back flat unless supported by a wheel which slowly turns at one side. The wheel is so placed that its circumference holds the stencil against the opening. Half of the circumference is intact, but a quarter section is cut away almost to the hub and the remaining quarter is rounded out to meet the complete section.

As the wheel turns, the stencil is held against the window until the cutaway portion permits it to drop out of sight. After a moment the curved sector picks it up and slowly moves it back to the window.

The effect is a blur of light which gradually resolves itself into a clean-cut letter and then suddenly drops out of sight to repeat. It is better than a flasher, for it stays in place longer, and most persons will watch the sign for several repeats to figure out how it is done. The face of the box is painted up for a permanent ad for the house, with only the title in letters of light.

### Adolescent Club

Most of the club ideas have been confined to getting the younger children in; which is a perfectly good idea. But there is just as much money paid by boys and girls between 12 and 18. There is no reason why the semi-grownups should not be interested in a club idea, too, if the stunt is suited to their more mature development.

The gag is to form a picture study club, with an enrolled membership pledged to a study of the pictures. It should be placed under the management of some tactful woman who knows her pictures. The club should visit the theatre on a designated night and either before or after the showing meet for a discussion. If before, the club leader tells all about the play. If the meeting follows the showing, it should be devoted to the expression of opinions. In either case, prizes are awarded for the most intelligent criticisms, idea to count for as much as literary expression.

### Happy New Year

Fox West Coast is using "New Show Year" as a substitute for the outmoded "Greater Movie Season." The phrase is a happy one, since it gives the suggestion of a new deal.

If not in opposition to Fox, it might be a good lead to follow. Start your campaign by running "Happy New Year" in all your advertising and dodging explanations when curious patrons ask. Tease for a week and then go into the announcement of the new year, with the announcement of the new product. If you can get hold of a stock new year cut, mortise in 1931-32 and use that for all advertising, and then start off with a party for the opening night with the same trimmings you would use for Dec. 31. If you work hard you can even drag your town or section with you in an advertising campaign that will cut your own space bills. Besides which the Jewish holidays are approaching.

Wait until you get some of the new product booked, and then howl.

### College Concerts

One manager in a college town has a lot of his Friday nights in the box already. Last spring the manager of the glee club came to him and asked permission to put the club on for a couple of nights before the boys went on their spring tour. He wanted to give them a little stage experience. Manager was glad to oblige.

Before college closed he arranged a deal with the manager to have the boys start in some time in October and give weekly concerts each Friday night with the idea of giving them their spring training early. Manager was glad to accept the suggestion and this season the glee club will perform every Friday night when no other school activity is scheduled.

The manager plans to tie in other college activities these nights, entertaining the football team one night, etc. It all helps and at little or no cost.

### False Economy

In one of the circuit drives for economy a manager pointed to a saving of $15 a week on programs. If by this he meant the house program, then it is possible that he did effect a saving, but if the item referred to programs put out for the coming shows it is possible that the money saved was more than offset by a fall in patronage.

Most programs, if well done, should be able to influence more than $15 worth of business which might not otherwise be gained. It is not what you spend which counts, but what you spend needlessly and to no return.

Drives have resulted in many real cost reductions but in spots the idea is being carried to excess. Before you make a cut figure out whether expense or revenue will form the greater slice.

### Telephone Cards

A good gag for "Secret Call" is to print up cards for the picture which may be hung on the mouthpieces of all public phones. Permission should be obtained from the telephone company and the copy might read "The telephone ensures speed and privacy, but if you want to put in a Secret Call, go to the Blank theatre and see how importantly the telephone figured in the lives of interesting people." They may also be slipped onto the phones in stores. But the cards work best in the booths and in hotel rooms.

### Tells It with Kites

Enid, Okla.

Dennis Scaling revived the kite-flying idea Aug. 4, for a general build-up for the Criterion. Between 800 and 900 boys came into the contest, and most of the rest of the town looked on. Contest limited to boys under 18 with the exception of registered boy scouts, who could be over that age. Seven events with two prizes each.

Each boy had to make his own kite. He could have parental supervision, but the flier had to be entirely his own handiwork.

The big event was an endurance flight, the kites to stay up day and night until only one remained. A novelty class included colors, streamers, lights, design or anything else out of the ordinary. Altitude and distance each formed a class, the latter decided by the greatest length of string paid out.

Local merchants gave the prizes, awarded from the stage.

Cost nothing but the trouble of managing. Made usual marbles tournament look sick.

### Local Revue

Washington, D. C.

Fox Washington theatre is preparing to stage an "All Washington Revue" 21, with the house getting as much press work out of the rehearsals as it gets out of the average show. Not a kiddie revue, but a more adult form, with plenty of local talent, mostly from the free dancing school maintained as one of the theatre's regular gags.

Harry Crull and Lou Brown, p.a., working everything from melon eating to sousing the F. & M. gals under the town pump, but the local revue promises to be the honey.

### New Classified Tie-in

Nashville, Tenn.

Tired of the tickets in the classified ads stunt, Chas. H. Amos worked a new one at the Paramount. He tied the "Banner" to a song, "Harmonize with Banner Want Ads," which was the only advertisement on the screen other than a slide of the classified page used as a background for whatever song was being played by the organist.

It got him four 30-inch display ads for "Women Love Once."

He also sent a letter to 1,000 married women to sell through the title.

### Cold Decks

Managers with cooled houses are overlooking a bet if they are not promoting bridge parties for the early afternoons. Generally a 25c admission obtains until six, and there are many women who would be glad to pay that price to keep cool while they play. Care should be taken to place the players so that their chatter will not interfere with the dialog on the screen, but the house large enough to have a cooling plant generally has some room where these parties can be held.

### Dailies' Extra Tap

Rochester, Aug. 10.

**A new publicity quirk by the dailies here.**

**Extra ad space must be taken by the theatres to announce publicity stunts before the news pages can be crashed for the campaign.**

### Stunts for "Dirigible"

Minneapolis.

John W. Thoma, Columbia midwest division exploiteer, together with Dick Gilbert, RKO division exploitation manager here, collaborated on a big campaign for the first popular price showing of "Dirigible" at the Twin City Orpheums.

A preview of the picture was put on for the governor and his official family. Gilbert obtained permission to have streamers advertising "Dirigible" and the Orpheum placed on a large captive balloon shaped like a dirigible which the Goodyear Rubber Co. has had here for the past two weeks for exploitation purposes.

Prior to the picture's opening was a parade through the loops in both cities of 600 boys carrying placards about the attraction. Gilbert induced the U. S. Naval Reserve to have its squardon of seven airplanes fly in formation over the parade, led by a 50-piece band. Airplanes sounded sirens and broadcast from the air about "Dirigible."

Announcements about the picture were made frequently over all Twin City radio stations. Theatres started their advance newspaper advertising of the attraction four days in advance, the first time in several years that this has been done for an Orpheum picture. In St. Paul placards on 125 taxicab bumpers and 25,000 milk bottle tops were used to advertise the picture. Two hundred window displays were obtained and drug stores and confectioneries advertised special "Dirigible" sundaes.

Enormous beacon lights have been installed in front of the theatres to attract attention during the run.

### Records the Sings

Philadelphia.

Milton Charles, organist at the Mastbaum, has worked out a novelty that is selling like a feature.

Charles got hold of one of those phonograph devices which are capable of an immediate playback, similar to the style current in theatre lobbies for a time. He gets the audience to sing a pop number on his promise to let them hear how it sounds, and immediately replays the effort from the disc over the amplifiers.

More important to the audience than the biggest group of operatic stars, and they love it.

### Sold a News Clip

Los Angeles.

With the newsreel carrying a clip on the May Company, which is celebrating its 15th anniversary, RKO theatres contacted the store and got an announcement to the 3,000 employees urging them to attend, and applaud. Sold a bunch of tickets at full price and put the company under obligation for future favors.

### Double Event

Toledo.

RKO Rivoli doing big ballyhoo on "Dirigible" coming next week. Anniversary, besides plenty of stunts and stuff.

### Boomed "Common Law"

Los Angeles.

RKO went after "Common Law" and cleaned in spite of the heat. Lobby was packed all day with crowds watching an artist paint a model, posing on a huge bank of cushions. Plenty of sales copy back of the girl which they had to read while they watched.

The blowoff is a final of the Artists' Models Beauty Contest on the stage, with Henry Clive as judge. Many local models, extras, small part people and just girls have entered and 200-300 are expected to appear. First prize is a portrait by Clive and a screen test at Pathe; always an incentive out here. Cash for the next four.

Windows, on Cosmetics, in about 200 drug stores. Art school contest for best paintings of Miss Bennett, and several other special windows on various angles.

### Australian Exploitation

Sydney.

City Fathers prohibit street ballyhoos in connection with any picture publicity. Edict makes it pretty tough for the publicity boys. Ministers of the church asking all advertising and posters be submitted to a Censor of Morals before being released.

Mel G. Lawton is responsible for the remarkable success of "Viennese Nights" at Prince Edward, Sydney, with picture now in its third month. In putting out his publicity campaign, Lawton carried the message in all advertising, that the music was written by the composers of "Rose Marie," "The Desert Song" and "The Student Prince"—all big hits over here. Lawton tied up with all music stores and radio stations to play the music from the production, with the result that song hits from "Viennese Nights" were constantly before the public.

Beyond the usual ads, cost of boosting the attraction was practically nil.

In putting over "Mother's Millions" at Capitol, Melbourne, management invited every old lady to be their guest at the premiere. Hundreds of dear old souls—some witnessing their first talker—came along and blocked the traffic for several blocks.

For "The Indians Are Coming," Universal is giving away an Indian outfit to every kiddie attending each theatre where serial is playing. Stunt is bringing the kids to the talkers again strongly and resulting in capacity matinees everywhere.

### "Huck" on the Fence

Managers who used the fence for Tom Sawyer will find that it can take an encore for "Huckleberry Finn," while those who did not use this almost standard idea will find it will pay.

The theatre lobby is masked in with a board fence, so placed that it does not interfere with the free passage of the patrons. On this is chalked or painted in white crudely lettered announcements of the picture together with sketches and similar material.

### Played Politics

Miami.

James H. McKoy got a great idea when he played "Politics" at the Olympia. The town was in the throes of a political upheaval. All McKoy had to do was to tag on and let the local ferment work for him. Police were getting the gate regularly, everything was unsettled, and the public right in the mood for a political story.

McKoy started off with the familiar "If I were ———" style of teaser, each carrying the name of some prominent politician and telling that he would see "Politics" for tips.

### Coupons for Tickets

Longmount, Colo.

Charles Yaeger, of the Longmount, has a new merchant tie-in. He sells the stores coupons to be given with purchases, each store paying for its own coupons, but only on those presented at b. o. They cost the merchant 3½c and are redeemable at the theatre for tickets. Takes three for a kid, seven for a student and 10 for an adult ticket. Merchants make a noise in their advertising and plug the house shows in ads and windows. Only one store in each line is permitted in on the deal.

Idea is taking hold and Yaeger is figuring on some merchandise prizes to help it along.

### Auto Giveaways

Minneapolis.

Publix Minnesota and State theatres have a tie-up with Chevrolet which is getting the houses free advertising. Each house gives away an automobile to the patrons submitting the best Chevrolet slogans. Coupons on which the slogans must

(Continued on page 30)

# BEHIND *the* KEYS

Columbus.

Southern theatre, long idle downtown house, leased by John E. Jones, formerly manager of the Majestic and at present p.a. for Olentangy park. Max Stern with Jones in leasing the house.

This is the only house which road legit shows will be able to play here next season as the Hartman has been leased to Edith King for stock.

Burns O'Sullivan has purchased the Savoia, nabe house, for second runs.

Ft. Dodge, Ia.

Central State Corp. reopening the Iowa theatre Aug. 22. Jess Day, manager. Central States operates Rialto and Strand here. Iowa first run.

Kansas City.

George Baker now city manager of Publix-Dubinsky in Joplin, Mo.

Sac City, Ia.

Lyric bought by George Norman and M. J. Kuesch. Norman manages Empire at Storm Lake.

Dallas.

Hollywood, RKO's new foothold in Ft Worth, reopened Aug. 8, with "Common Clay." Straight pic. policy, 50c top (tentative), with two to four changes per week. Jack Edwards for headaching end.

Dallas.

Dixie, at Kilgore, oil town, complete loss by fire. C. O. Murphree, owner.

American, at Orange, slightly damaged by booth blaze.

Milwaukee.

Louis Lamm has succeeded Bob Lewis as manager of the Fox Paradise.

Rochester, N. Y.

Lindy theatre leased by Sirroman Amusement Co. Seats 1,000 and to be renovated, W. E. sound installed and reopens Aug. 22 under new name. Operators are Max Cohen, Morris Fogel and Jack Rose, who run other neighborhood houses in city.

Yakima, Wash.

All set to open Yakima's new theatre, in the Empire building. This is a Hughes-Franklin house, seating 950. "City Lights" to be used at opener. Western Electric wired.

Seattle.

Percy Hurst, 45, pioneer film company rep, in the northwest, died here recently. Survived by his widow. Death was due to a hemorrhage of the brain, with which he was stricken suddenly, at Longview, Wash., while on his way home. He was with independent pictures for years, and, until his death, with Sheffield Pictures

Seattle.

H. K. Brin manager of Third avenue (old Pantages), straight pictures, at 5-15c.

Dallas.

Russell Stewart, mgr. for Warners' Midwest, Oklahoma City, resigned recently to enter insurance biz. Roy Eby for the vacancy.

Des Moines.

Jess Day will manage the Iowa, Ft. Dodge, recently purchased by Central States.

Cincinnati, O.

Jack Schwartz, in on small chain of nabe picture houses in Louisville, Ky., enters Cincy field by leasing Park Hall theatre in Hyde Park, suburb, for 10 years at $10,000 per year from Mrs. M. B. Schwenker.

Royal, 300-seater, last of downtown theatres to go sound. Reopens Sept. 1. Management considering German pictures exclusively.

Chattanooga.

Fire last week completely razed American, indie house. Officials estimate damage at $22,500, covered by insurance.

Chattanooga.

Effective Aug. 8 the Tivoli, leading Publix house, dropped its stage policy.

New policy will be straight sound.

Denver.

Sheffield Film exchanges is giving up Talking Picture Epics franchises because of having contracted for considerable other additional product.

R. E. Mitchell is here preparing to open a Denver office for T. P. E. of which Fred Gage will be mgr.

Knoxville, Tenn.

W. E. Drumbar has succeeded Floyd Smith as Publix city manager here. Smith is manager of the new Paramount, Nashville.

Knoxville, Tenn.

Double features have been definitely discarded at the Tennessee, Publix A house, although experiment here was reported to be one of most satisfying on Publix circuit. House is now making a twice-weekly change on Saturday and Wednesday instead of Monday and Thursday as formerly. Plan is believed to be getting a better balance on bookings, the Saturday run helping out the usually slow first-half houses.

Buffalo.

The Hollywood, former Little Cinema Art theatre, will reopen this month under the management of Basil Bros., Buffalo independent neighborhood operators.

# Talking Shorts

**FLOYD GIBBONS**
**On Woodrow Wilson**
**10 Mins.**
**Projection Room, N. Y.**
**RKO-Pathe-Van Buren**

Altogether away from any other short or picturization is the first of the Floyd Gibbons series of shorts on celebrities, produced by A. P. Waxman and Mike Mindlin for Van Buren distribution through RKO-Pathe release. This short can be highly commended locally as an educational for school children or others who were not old enough in 1917 to recall President Wilson declaring war, in league with the Allies against Germany. School children and the others since then have likely read in their histories how this action by Mr. Wilson, shown in the short, became the means of forcing the Armistice in November, 1918.

Floyd Gibbons is talking, sometimes on the sheet, but mostly off, while an assembly of moving pictures of the many events of wartime with President Wilson always the central figure continuously travel the sheet for nearly all of the 10 minutes. It's somewhat remarkable how much this assembly holds for that brief time, and also how much Gibbons can tell in connection. It's a liberal illustrated lecture for the children they won't forget, while it will either tell or bring back to their elders many big moments of the U. S. in the Great War.

Mr. Gibbons places unlimited stress on Wilson's decisive decision for this country to enter Europe's throbbing battle arena. The famous war correspondent who lost an eye in his hazardous task of reporting the war, leaving the damaged socket in a condition that a bandage only will cover, tells the audience the War killed President Wilson; that its burdens sapped his strength; that Mr. Wilson proceeded according to his convictions against the advice of his personal physician, Admiral Grayson.

Admiral Grayson is in the picture for a moment, brought on by Gibbons who likely made the Dr.'s appearance a personal request, as Gibbons credits the Admiral for much of the material in the subject.

Mr. Gibbons has put a bit of a brake on his record breaking talking gift. On the screen he enunciates distinctly as he does at all times, but the talk sounds as though held down as against Gibbons' rapid fire verbal barrage on the radio. Off screen Gibbons speeds up a little but not too fast. Off the screen he is competing with the speedy moving illustrations the audience is watching, while listening to the information of the screen lecture.

Gibbons is not talking too swiftly for the average adult. For the children the gist of his comment will give them the total idea of the President and the events.

A very interesting subject on an unparalleled world situation with one of America's now historical figures in the center throughout, whilst the authentic matter is told of with authority by another figure of the Great War, Floyd Gibbons.

If Gibbons can proceed to turn out the other 11 shorts scheduled for him nearly as interestingly, with Mr. Wilison probably the single deceased notable he will speak of, the rest to be in the interview style, Messrs. Waxman and Mindlin have something in this, that they thought out and have now worked out.

*Sime.*

---

**"THE GHOST TOWNS"**
**Travel Novelty,**
**11 Mins.,**
**Winter Garden, N. Y.**
**Talking Picture Epics**

The old gold strike towns of Nevada, mainly Virginia City, now desolate and practically uninhabitated, make interesting if not strong short material.

Gayne Whitman tells what is credited as the true story of the famous gold-rush towns, pointing out famous gambling halls, hotels, saloons, the railway stations now locked up and rotting, etc. One scene is staged of pioneers watching showgirls of the hefty variety do their stuff.

Reel winds up with a view of the statue of John William Mackay, gold baron, who started the Mackay fortune in the rich Nevada fields of days past. Camera work and accompanying talk generally satisfactory. *Char.*

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**"LA SHNAPS, INC."**
**SMITH and DALE**
**Comedy**
**18 Mins.**
**Loew's New York**
**Paramount**

Evidently one of the earlier shorts produced by Paramount. Contains nothing to recommend it to the average audience. Theme is hacked and the dialog uninspired. A nondescript audience at Loew's New York failed to locate a single chuckle.

Marrying off a mute relative, concealing her past ventures and the roomful of children is the framework. *Waly.*

---

**"MAIL"**
**Russian Cartoon**
**21 Mins.**
**Cameo, N. Y.**
**Amkino**

The first Russian cartoon and maybe the first foreign animated drawing of any kind to be shown in this country. It employs a new technique and has considerable novelty and interest because of that reason. But as a finished product it's still short of the American standard. Considerable dialog in Russian restricts it on sound to native audiences.

Instead of employing line drawings, as do American cartoons, the Russians do it all in poster drawing, figures being handled with light and shadow only. Only a great deal of the movement is obtained through the use of silhouettes moved against a blank or drawn in background.

Music is the most important item, being beautifully played and quite original, with the subject really evolving as an accompaniment to the music rather than the other way around. Interesting part is that the drawings are manipulated with picture technique which gives a highly exciting effect in the portrayal of a train in motion. Flashes back and forth between engine head, wheels and train in motion as is done by a camera, but objects drawn. It works out nicely.

What hurts more than anything, outside of the fact that the film is twice too long, is that human caricatures are used rather than animals, and also the tricks employed in American cartoons are out.

When further developed this method of making cartoons may prove highly interesting and worthwhile. *Kauf.*

---

**THE NORWORTHS**
**"The Naggers at the Races"**
**Comedy**
**16 Mins.**
**Winter Garden, N. Y.**
**Vitaphone No. 1259**

Similar to other Norworth items in the "Naggers" series and reminiscent particularly of the time they went to the ball game. Here at the races, with the Mrs. knowing less about turfdom than the diamond, a lot of rich comedy is developed. Any way viewed it's good entertainment.

Alf Goulding directed from a story by Herman Ruby which takes the modest Norworths out for the big day at the race track on a two-for-one ticket. The old man takes the wrong tips with some effective crossfire worked up through the names of the horses, such as "Bessie," mistaken by the Mrs. as that other woman the Norworths used to fight over in vaude, "Old Battle-axe," taken as a personal slam, etc.

Some peanut throwing biz is mild but a rain storm and the shrunken condition of the Naggers' clothes on getting home is handled for laughs and a neat finish.

Photography and recording good, but a newsreel stock shot of a turf classic in sunshine and rain is poor. *Char.*

---

**BOBBY JONES**
**"The Brassie"**
**10 Mins.**
**Winter Garden, N. Y.**
**WB-No. 8**

For the golf enthusiast these Bobby Jones shorts, now nearing the end of the series, remain a tenstrike. To offset straightway golf, they're still giving Jones a little story support, in this case building around a young couple who are bilked in an attempt to elope by the girl's father. Latter gets so wound up in watching Jones that the couple manage to skip the links for a preacher.

Atlanta golf champ deals here with the brassie. Some very effective photographing of the ball in pursuit of the green. Camera in one instance is perched above the fairway to follow the ball as it is struck by Jones with its flight covering well over 200 yards to the pin. In other cases the little pill is followed as it rolls to the green.

Instructive angles are as clear and concise as usual by Jones. *Char.*

---

**"GANGWAY"**
**JOE PENNER**
**Comedy, Singing, Dancing**
**18 Mins.**
**Strand, N. Y.**
**Vitaphone Nos. 1198-99**

About eight instead of 18 minutes would have been sufficient here unless better development of the idea at hand had been provided. Rates below average, with Joe Penner not one tithe as effective on screen as on stage.

Penner, with his trick laugh and Harry Langdonish mannerisms, does "Stupid," jester at the court of a big gangster. When latter is invited to a swell party he gets "Stupe" to double for him, dolling him up as Napoleon. Rival mobmen, meanwhile, re planning a jewel rush and plant one of their men as the famous mugg who also met his Waterloo, with mistaken identity resulting in "Stupe" ending up with all the jewelry. Turning it over, the women think him grand, going for him in a big way as a cue for the finish.

Previously an unbilled girl dancer is permitted a much too long routine in a hot type of number, and Penner does a song and dance. Neither arousing. *Char.*

---

**"In Jena Sind Alle Maedels So Blond"**
**("All Girls of Jena Are Blond")**
**GERMAN MADE**
**With FRANZ BAUMANN**
**Songs**
**7 Mins.**
**Cosmopolitan, N. Y.**
**Ufa**

Fair short for German consumption. Franz Baumann is well liked by the Teutons and has a nice voice.

(Continued on page 30)

## Miniature Reviews

**"An American Tragedy"** (Par). Slow and unevenly presented drama with a tragic climax. Cast highlight supplied by a minor member. Colorless enough to be doubtful of even making women cry and the chances are against it being a financial success.

**"Young As You Feel"** (Fox). Will Rogers carries the load in rather antiquated idea but made into fair comedy material. Fifi Dorsay and Lucien Littlefield assist. Looks fair b.o. due to star.

**"Huckleberry Finn"** (Par). Kid cycle contestant for high grosses. Another pleasant screen interlude for patrons of all ages, exploitation being mainly needed to get adults to attend.

**"The Runaround"** (Radio). Medium weight Technicolor comedy. No star names but lends toward teaser exploitation and advertising. Looks like below average grosser.

**"Traveling Husbands"** (Radio). Good enough program picture to play any week's deluxer. Lively story of traveling salesmen away from home with dames. Evelyn Brent best name and performance.

**"Son of the Plains"** (Syndicate) Bob Custer western story. Custer as a deputy sheriff rides fast and talks slow. Two good fist fights, some swell scenery and a plot which gives the law the edge. Usual western for usual western spots.

**"Der Wahre Jacob"** (Stark). Fast and pleasing German farce for strictly German consumption. Too much talk for anyone without a complete knowledge of the language.

**"Express 13"** (UFA). Wild yarn loosely told and none too well acted. Strictly for the Germans with little likelihood of success despite that criminal yarns are popular with the Teutons.

**"Hell Bent For Frisco"** (Sono-Art), Goofy newspaper meller. For grind twin bills or grinds alone, but that kind.

## AMERICAN TRAGEDY

Paramount production and release. Features Phillips Holmes, Sylvia Sidney, Frances Dee. Based on Theodore Dreiser's novel of the same name. Directed by Joseph Von Sternberg. Screen play by Samuel Hoffenstein. Photography, Lee Garmes. At Criterion, New York, on twice daily $2 run starting Aug. 5. Running time, 96 minutes.

Clyde Griffiths.....Phillips Holmes
Roberta Alden.....Sylvia Sidney
Sondra Finchley.....Frances Dee
District Attorney.....Irving Pichel
Clyde's Attorneys....Emmett Corrigan and Charles B. Middleton

As a picture "An American Tragedy" unreels as an ordinary program effort with an unhappy ending. The other side is that its relations to the book upon which it is based are decidedly strained. For box office purposes it has the reputation of the novel and its author behind it to help. But as Von Sternberg has seen fit to present it this celluloid structure is slow, heavy and not always interesting drama. It's box office success is very doubtful.

Critics will see two sides to this film—as a picture and as an adaptation of the novel. The latter phase is not as important to the trade as whether it's going to do any business. The answer seems to be that it will take an armful of exploitation to push "Tragedy" around the corner. It has plenty of things to contend with as concerns financial result, not the least of which is the universal grind policy permitting entrance by patrons at any point in the story. And "Tragedy" is decidedly not the type of picture which lends itself to this national film house habit.

In its finished screen form the feature is a chaotic piece of work into which the director has pumped a succession of titles, and bad titles, to denote various and long lapses of time. Consequently, the continuity not only jumps but is constantly jerky. To those who know what's coming it will look very much as if Von Sternberg staged a race to get to the courtroom. He has gone through the first volume in 10 minutes, or the first reel.

Meanwhile, there is not a performance in the cast to intrigue any real degree of interest and, as a matter of fact, histrionic honors belong to the elegantly voiced Irving Pichel, a veteran of the legit stage and one of the original founders of the Theatre Guild, as the district attorney.

The film spends a third or more of its 96 minutes on the trial. It's a big and theatrically good atmospheric scene, although doubtful of compensating for the preceding footage in lieu of the multiple trial pictures already released. This elongated passage for film purposes also has the handicap of involving neither of the girls as Roberta is already dead, and for whose murder Clyde is convicted, with Sondra escaping through the influence of a wealthy father. So the entire burden is on Holmes, as the floundering victim, which he is incapable of upholding for the camera.

The impression is that Holmes has been shackled by direction. Physically he is a perfect selection for the bewildered boy of the book, and he has shown enough in previous films to make the supposition reasonable that he could play the role, but the outcome is a colorless performance unto the extent of the characterization being unable to arouse audience sympathy or understanding. On the sympathetic end Sylvia Sidney will capture the major reaction as the trusting Roberta, which she mainly accomplishes by means of a wistful smile. Frances Dee, as Sondra, merely registers as the Hollywood conception of a debutante and is not important, except as the brusque motivation for Clyde's reversal of his relations with Roberta and his longing to become of the younger social set of the small town.

Other delineations are relegated to small parts, although some of these bit players stand out. Excellent photography marks the picture despite the director's penchant for the consistent use of long footage dissolves.

A summary would stamp the picture more as an outright screen adaptation of the Chester Gillette case, upon which the book was founded, rather than the Dreiser novel. For those who read the book the film ends upon the introduction of the trial, and they will have found it a disappointing transposition. But the film has this in its favor—not many film fans have read the book. If they had, there wouldn't be so many tabloid newspapers in the country. The public at large neither has the inclination nor the patience to delve into any double-volume novel.

It took Dreiser 10 years to write "An American Tragedy," and they cut 100,000 words, or a third volume, from the original manuscript. However, it's questionable if even the admirers of this author's work condone the evident publicity complex he has developed, so it shouldn't be a matter of inflamed indignation by the minority in defense of the writer over the picture as an illustrated interpretation of the novel. More likely is it that they'll simply decide there is no relation between the two and drop the entire matter as needless of discussion.

A sidelight on Dreiser's official complaint was that it mentioned that the script first prepared by Sergei Eisenstein, to have directed, was entirely satisfactory to the author. This, however, was not the treatment finally used plus Von Sternberg replacing the Russian in the directorial chair.

After viewing the picture it doesn't seem that they'll ever be able to personify this book in pictures, limited as they are by censors and the ever-present problem of running time. It appears obvious enough that it would have taken a director who liked the novel to mold it into film form. Von Sternberg publicly made known his antagonism to Dreiser, if not the book, and, perhaps, in a resultant effort to out-Dreiser Dreiser, Von Sternberg fell down. On the other hand, it's also plausible that the task of condensing such a work into a program-length picture, while retaining its strength and spirit, is beyond the medium of the screen under theatre schedules. The stage tried it, not too successfully.

The picturization of "American Tragedy" will have to get over on the strength of the reputation of the book, and it is going to be a tough battle. The film will win few, if any, readers for the novel. *Sid.*

## YOUNG AS YOU FEEL

Fox production and release. From the play, "Father and the Boys," by George Ade. Directed by Frank Borzage. Adaptation by Edwin Burke. Stars Will Rogers and features Fifi Dorsay and Lucien Littlefield. Photographer, Chester Lyons. At the Roxy, N. Y., week of Aug. 7. Running time, 78 mins.

Lemuel Morehouse.....Will Rogers
Fleurette.....Fifi Dorsay
Marley.....Lucien Littlefield
Billy Morehouse.....Donald Dillaway
Tom Morehouse.....Terrance Ray
Dorothy Gregson.....Lucille Browne
Rose Gregson.....Rosalie Roy
Col. Stanhope.....John T. Murray

If Will Rogers can stand up under this one Fox will. It's Rogers in his usual homely routine, his drawl and the middle-aged midwestern turning into a gay dog to straighten out his family. Outside of Rogers there's ttle to recommend, but that may be enough. Rogers, however, will make them laugh if willing, and that ought to bring fair receipts.

Fifi Dorsay and Lucien Littlefield manage to contribute some comic assistance, but the rest of the cast just plays straight for this trio, and mostly for Rogers alone.

Here the star is a cattle dealer who has let time and his two sons pass him by. One son sports, the other goes Greenwich Village. When it's almost too late to change the kids and make business men of them, pappy gets some joy glands through an overdose of champagne and the coy machinations of the flirty French accent and tempting girlish figure of Fifi Dorsay.

The father's friendship with the girl turns out to be just one of those platonic things. He saves her dough, which might have been taken away from her by a swindler, besides returning the girl to her husband.

Almost a matter of continuous dialog which would have staled but for the methods of Rogers. Picture begins slowly, but gathers momentum towards the close. It finishes with a laugh as Littlefield, the old crab of a shop manager, also goes gay with femmes.

A little bit of bedroom stuff to give a slight sex touch and provide some needed punch. It is done slapstick. Rogers is shown doing his nighttime calisthenics in a nightshirt as Miss Dorsay undresses in

(Continued on page 22)

# The Woman's Angle

**"The Immortal Vagabond"** (UFA). Charming romance flavored with picturesque Tyrolean customs, but done in too melancholy and unattenuated a mood to draw American femme fans.

**"Traveling Husbands"** (Radio). Dull and inept attempt to be shocking about the infidelity and carousing of traveling salesmen. A mystery shooting thrown in fails to mystify but prolongs the tedium.

**"The Star Witness"** (WB).—Timely film pamphlet on gangdom's menace to home and children, enlivened with human interest detail derived from its every-day family background. Sure to enlist the matrons and the more public spirited flaps.

**"Young As You Feel"** (Fox).—Will Rogers' ingratiating, awkward charm manages to sustain a slow farce treatment of elderly capers. For settled ladies, not for flaps.

**"An American Tragedy"** (Par).—An incoherent and ponderous history of sordid events that convict an unsympathetic hero of murder, depleted of the sociological motivation necessary to make its telling worthy of the time and effort expended. Proving nothing, it is too depressing otherwise to create widespread femme response. Best chance on its unsavory betrayed young girl episodes and long exploited title.

**"Huckleberry Finn"** (Par).—Wholesome entertainment for the family, with the universal appeal of childhood memories stirred by natural and likeable child actors.

**"The Run-Around"** (Radio).—The good little chorus girl who finally gets the millionaire to marry her in an over-plotty story needing stronger leads and smarter direction to get by with the girls today.

**"Express 13"** (UFA).—Assassins—adventure—dynamite claptrap that nevertheless holds interest for the frauleins because of its languorously pretty star, Charlotte Susa

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RKO Radio PICTURES

## *Young As You Feel*

(Continued from page 19)

an adjoining room. That's how the two meet. Also some fresh flapper sidelights interpolated through Lucille Browne and Rosalie Roy. The two are worth watching. Photography throughout okay.

Essentially the idea of this George Ade piece is antiquated. That's where treatment got off to a bad start. Other items may be charged to cutting. *Shan.*

## HUCKLEBERRY FINN

Paramount production and release. From Mark Twain's novel of same name. Directed by Norman Taurog. Adaptation by Grover Jones and William McNutt. Photography, David Abel. Features Jackie Coogan, Junior Durkin, Mitzi Green and Jackie Searl. At Paramount, N. Y., week of Aug. 7. Running time, 79 mins.

Tom Sawyer.....Jackie Coogan
Becky Thatcher.....Mitzi Green
Huckleberry Finn.....Junior Durkin
Sid Sawyer.....Jackie Searl
Jim.....Clarence Muse
Aunt Polly.....Clara Blandick
Widow Douglas.....Jane Darwell
Junior.....Eugene Pallette
Senior.....Oscar Apfel
Finn.....Warner Richmond
Mary Jane.....Charlotte V. Henry

Appeal here that runs the range of a couple of generations. It's the second Mark Twain story to be done by Paramount, first being "Tom Sawyer." The in-betweener in that company's cycle of pictures with children for both kid and adult draw was "Skippy." This one deserves to run the grosses as high as the other two, if not higher. In the deluxers or in the backwoods shotguns, this one ought to top averages.

Same quartet that did "Sawyer" reunite in Jackie Coogan, Junior Durkin, Mitzi Green and Jackie Searl. The latter two only appear in a minor way at the beginning. That's after the first 1,000 feet or so when Searl, Miss Green and the others practically disappear, a young adolescent (looking like sweet 16) taking up from there on. She's attractive, soft-voiced Charlotte V. Henry for whom Huck Finn changes his mind about women.

Durkin is excellent throughout, overshadowing Coogan, who in spots is permitted to appear and talk in a too adult manner. His early love scene assignments with Mitzi Green drag in an unnatural touch. But for Durkin's able and natural characterization all the way, this might have meant serious injury to the picture.

Dialog, however, mostly hits that kid slant, the adaptation having captured much of the Twain sentimentality and touch. Durkin smile goes beyond that, picturing the Twain character as he peered out of the book itself.

Upon beginning to fall for the girl at whose house he and his pal, Sawyer, stop to eat after running away from home, the smile and the boyish shyness become peculiarly surefire, realistic and, as the gals will say, cute.

Taurog's direction is balanced and smooth. The manner in which the credits for the main title are handled is both clever and fitting. They're written as in the scrawl of a kid on a board fence (that being background), with camera moving along fence. Credit flashed at the end, but in conventional unadorned fashion.

Some very good support for the kid actors in Eugene Pallette and Oscar Apfel as the muggs Huck and Tom pick up on their raft; Jane Darwell as the Widow Douglas and Clarence Muse as Jim, the colored gent who runs away with the youngsters. Others in the cast all minor contributors.

Photography, recording and exterior stuff excellent. *Char.*

## THE RUNAROUND

(ALL COLOR)

Radio production and release. Associate producer, Louis Sarecky. Technicolor process. Based on story by Zandah Owen. Adaptation and dialog by Alfred Jackson and Barney Sarecky. Directed by William J. Craft. Assistant director, Tommy Atkins. Photography, Ray Ranahan. Recording, George D. Ellis. At the Strand, N. Y., week of Aug. 7. Running time, 64 mins.

Fred.....Geoffrey Kerr
Evelyn.....Mary Brian
Howard.....Johnny Hines
Margy.....Marie Prevost
Lou.....Joseph Cawthorn

Husband hunting by a chorus girl, catch being the chorine finally repudiating the means for the desired end and gaining latter anyhow. Handled with some freshness here. It's a pretty flimsy story which in the telling is held up from collapse by a laugh here and there. No one in cast of b.o. importance, and no outstanding performance. Draw will be entirely on strength of the title, advertising angles and exploitation for its teaser worth. Picture is all-Technicolor, the new process, and attractive from that end. As a whole will have to struggle for average figures.

It's the first made under Tech's new printing process designed to remove grain, which it does to a degree placing application of tints on a much improved scale. Mary Brian, sharing the story lead with Geoffrey Kerr, looks better in black and white, something that's true of a lot of people on the screen. Almost throughout color cameras have caught what appears to be a blemish on Kerr's left cheek.

Film was first known as "Waiting at the Church." But "The Runaround" ties up with the plan of two chorus girls to get one married to the rich mugg who's trying to sell her a bill of goods that carries along with it delivery of a key to his apartment. Refusing to go for that, the gals hatch a plot to invite the intended game to their apartment, meanwhile getting a fellow actor to step into character of her father suddenly blown into town.

It all works nicely until the actor gets stewed and spills the proverbial beans, girl then revolting to lowness of their methods and turning story into conventional ending through confessional gag. None of it very original, but there is considerable comedy of a light character to keep the banality of the narrative from tiring audiences completely.

In two instances Radio has not skipped opportunity of a plug for "Cimarron," with street scene flashing sign, and mention of the RKO Circuit (vaude).

Radio ha. its own show window on Broadway, the Mayfair. It sold this one to Warners for the Strand less than a block away, RKO apparently feeling it could spare it. *Char.*

## Traveling Husbands

Radio Pictures production and release. Directed by Paul Sloane. Story and adaptation by Humphrey Pearson. Evelyn Brent with Frank Albertson, Constance Cummings, Dorothy Peterson and Hugh Herbert featured. Cameraman, Leo Tover. William LeBaron programed as producer, with Myles Connolly, asst. producer. Charles Kerr, asst. director. At RKO Mayfair, New York, opening Aug. 7. Running time, 74 minutes.

Ruby.....Evelyn Brent
Barry.....Frank Albertson
Ellen.....Constance Cummings
Hymie.....Hugh Herbert
Ben.....Carl Miller
Pinkie.....Frank McHugh
Joe.....Spencer Charters
Martha.....Dorothy Peterson
J. C. Wilson.....Purnell Pratt
Mabel.....Gwen Lee
Vera.....Rita La Roy
Daisy.....Lucille Williams
Walter.....Tom Francis
Dan.....Stanley Fields

A picture for box office drought that should run considerably ahead of the average radio programer. That leaves "Travelling Husbands" equal to holding up a straight film deluxer for a week. One line in the dialog may make this picture a self-advertiser, for it's probably going to be repeated over any town.

Evelyn Brent as one of a call party of girls for travelling salesmen in the suite of a Detroit hotel, sees in one of the drummers her seducer. She shoots him and confesses it later to save an innocent man. In between arrives the wife of the wounded salesman. When the wife hears the girl's confession she wants to know what her husband had done to her.

"Not much," replies Miss Brent. "He only turned my evening stroll into an occupation."

It's that kind of a story all through, and a very well knitted story for that kind. It's continuity is noticeable, while both are held up by good straightforward direction. Paul Sloane directed. He has handled these kind of tales before and knows where the punches lie.

A group of travelling salesmen, travelling together. They all appear to have forgotten wives. Except two. One of the two is Frank Albertson, the juve, a stumbling sort of a chap who is given a tough assignment for Detroit, to either sell a safety pin to the leading dept. store of the town or take air.

Albertson can't get to first base with the store's owner, but he accidentally falls into his daughter, who is also waiting for her father in the outer room of his office. The daughter, Constance Cummings, slipped Pop her ultimatum that morning, when he turned down a check for her new plane. He either comes home more often or she will start in his wild oats path.

And about that time because Albertson is flat and can't pay a check if taking out the girl in her own car, the on the make salesman of the same group enters, Carl Miller. He and the girl start stepping, winding up in Miller's room. The party men and girls are next door. With the girl screaming to escape the chaser, the two rooms become one and the shooting follows, with Albertson suspected.

Miss Brent plays the 10-minute egg quite nicely. She puts plenty of scorn into her glances and as much snap in the dialog. Miss Cummings does nicely in the scenes with her father. Otherwise there's little for her except to look and dress. She's doing both.

Albertson just misses. He isn't bad, but the role slowed him up. Made him too backward, taking the play away from him at the wrong minute, and then slipping it to Miller, who did nothing with it.

Hugh Herbert did a Yid salesman with some 50-50 cracks, funny and unfunny. His accent never fitted into any situation either.

The girls all looked the call sort of dames, if that comment means anything to them.

In a way not unlike in groundwork Tiffany's "Party Girl" but not as raw and with a better story. *Sime.*

## Elisabeth von Oesterreich

("Elizabeth of Austria")
(GERMAN MADE)

Berlin, Aug. 1.

Gottschalkfilm production and release. Direction Adolf Trotz. Manuscript, Georg C. Klaren, Adolf Lantz and Alfred Schirokauer. Photography, Frederik Fugisang; sound, Hermann Birkhofer. Musical management, Dr. Felix Tuenther. Recorded on Tobis Klangfilm. Starring Lil Dagover, Maria Solveig, Paul Otto, Charlotte Ander, Ekkehard Arend, Gert Pilary, Ida Perry, Ludwig Stoessel, Maria West, Sergius Sax, Ida Wuest, Olga Limburg, Michael von Newlinsky, Toni Tetzlaff, Eugen Burg, Henry Berg, Robert Leffler, Magnus Stifter, Bernd Aldor, Gustl Stark-Gstettenbauer and Fritz Greiner. Running time, 74 minutes. At Titania-Palast, Berlin.

A really successful and beautiful film with an exceptionally decent human atmosphere. This picture certainly represents much care, work and trouble, and cost comparatively little. All the more reason to prognosticate a financial success—not only in German-speaking countries, as it has already been sold to France in the German version, and most likely will also be played in the U. S. in the German version.

Contrary to many other historical pictures which have been presented of late, and which showed openly a political tendency, as, for example, the Ufa talker, "The Flute Concert of Sans Souci," this film treats the tragic fate of an Empress in a refined and human manner, based on historical facts. The fate of a young and happy Bavarian princess who, according to obsolete political principles, was married to the Emperor of Austria. Her attitude towards life never conformed to the cold and stiff court ceremonies of the Austrian royal family. She flees from the rigid and unnatural court, traveling to live a warm life.

She returns when her son, the crown prince, is menaced with the same fate that made her restless and unhappy. She is too late, the State contracts with the Belgian royal family have been concluded. Her son, the Crown Prince Rudolf, commits suicide together with his beloved, the Countess Mary Vetsera, in order not to break his promise once given to his father. Again the Empress flees, restlessly wandering around the world until she is killed by a lunatic at Geneva at the Hotel Beau Rivage.

Without Lil Dagover this talker would be impossible. Her gripping acting, beauty, charm and the regalness of appearance make her a real film empress. Paul Otto, as the Emperor Franz Josef, has a less thankful role. Otto's Emperor, refined, cold, unbending, is the general opinion of Kaiser Franz Josef. Otto is most expressive and versatile with the limited means at his disposal. Mention must be made of Charlotte Ander, Ekkehard Arend, Ida Perry, the very funny Ludwig Stoessel, Gustl Stark-Gstattenbauer and Bernd Aldor.

Adolf Trotz, the director, does well and shows in this talker, which is his first, that he holds hopes for the future. He has good material in Lantz's, Schirokauer and Klaren's manuscript.

At times the sound reproduction could have been better. *Magnus.*

## SON OF THE PLAINS

Syndicate Pictures production. Bob Custer featured. Cast includes Doris Phillips, Ed Hearn and Gordon DeMain. Story and direction by Robert North. Photography by Archie Stout. Loew's Circle, New York, one day, Aug. 4. Running time, 61 minutes.

Not a bad western as westerns are nowadays. Fights and closeups of action with wild riding. Players other than Bob Custer read their lines in fair dramatic style. Custer is very stilted on dialog. As usual, grinds and grinding doubles.

Plot around a bandit called The Polka Dot. He ensnares the father of the girl Custer loves. Custer is the deputy sheriff. You guess the rest. Yes.

Only comedy relief is a drunk in a cafe scene drinking everybody's beer, falls against a slot machine which belches silver for him, which he uses up in a player piano. *Earl.*

## These Charming People

(ENGLISH MADE)

London, Aug. 1.

Paramount British production. Released by Paramount. Written by Michael Arlen. Scenario by Hugh Percival. Director, Louis Mercanton. Dialog director, Reginald Denham. Stars Cyril Maude. In cast: Godfrey Tearle, Nora Swinburne, Ann Todd, Anthony Ireland, C. V. France, Billie Shine. Length about 6,500 feet. Running time, about 80 mins. Reviewed Carlton, London, July 23.

Picture is important, the first film to be made by Paramount British Productions this side. It's curious how it took an American company to come over here and show the natives how to get the results. There may be two or three British films which will run up bigger grosses, but if so it's only because their stars are locally important. On its face value this one beats anything the home studios have done.

It's a frothy piece of work, with not much to it in story, depending for success on dialog and characterization, which it has in plenty. Picture stands alone among the English product in boasting something approaching Hollywood polish. Even though the print screened at the press view was not too well matched, the general impression was good.

Story is slight, telling how a Colonel's daughter, after marriage to a shipbuilder who keeps forgetting her, plans to trip away with her husband's secretary. They flit to Paris, with the family giving chase. It turns out the secretary is the son of her father's butler, who reckons the daughter isn't good enough to marry a butler's son.

Not much to it, but the comedy development is very amusing, mainly helped by the extra clever characterizations, which wipe up similar efforts in other home films. Fun is never farcical, but the mixture of pert dialog and comedy teamwork clicks well. Some of the gags are trivial, but effectively put over. Only slight suggestion of blemish is the recording, but again this may have been in preview projection.

Cyril Maude easily tops the cast as the girl's father. Godfrey Tearle not quite happy as the shipbuilder, but trouping that resonant voice of his to advantage. Nora Swinburne started with the asset of being photographed; rare among British female leads. Ann Todd was good in one of those exasperating roles. Rest of the cast were mainly good, with one glaring exception.

Dialog good, and Hugh Perceval's scenario, judging by the continuity, a workmanlike job, as was the cutting.

A box-office proposition this side, well worth getting behind. For the States, probably a dependable second feature. *Chap.*

## THE MAN AT SIX

(ENGLISH MADE)

London, Aug. 1.

British International production and release. From the stage play by Jack Celestin and Jack de Lion. Adapted by Victor Kendall. Directed by Harry Hughes. Photography, H. E. Palmer. In cast: Gerald Rawlinson, Anne Grey, Charles Farrell, John Turnbull, Lester Matthews, Kenneth Kove. Length, 6,415 feet. Running time, 80 mins. approx. Censor's Certificate: Not stated. Reviewed, Prince Edward, London.

Good British mystery-thriller, with plenty of action, heavy load of mystery stuff, good supply of comedy and sound suspense values. Picture may be along beaten lines but it rates much over the average in this field and can be depended on to do tidy business in the majority of English theatres, rating, indeed, as one of the best pieces of straightforward entertainment in British International's current list of features.

Extremely well-knit story tells how a butler to an old lady is found murdered, with the old lady having disappeared under suspicious circumstances, And Scotland Yard running round in circles trying to get the truth out of suspects obviously keen on backing each other up. Good scripting and direct production have made a well knit job out of what ultimately boils down into just another mystery thriller.

Technical values are commendable for this side, with the photography by young Palmer, handling his first feature, very promising. Editing is a good job of work. Slight blemishes prominent at the start, due to the producer's attempt to over-mystify the atmosphere.

John Turnbull walks away as a Scotland Yard man. This trouper has excellent screen sense. Anne Grey gets a good deal as the feminine interest, keeping the sympathy despite the crook role. She is much better photographed than most of the English femme leads.

Lester Matthews, as a private detective, all right. It being his first leading part, suggests real possibilities as a screen proposition. Kenneth Kove weighs in with his usual comedy; Arthur Hardy is melodramatic but effective in a small role.

Just a programer but a good programer, and deserves to do a lot better than many more expensive pictures made this side. For the States it just rates up with the usual line of second features. Here, it's better. *Chap.*

## Hell Bent for 'Frisco

Sono-Art Wide World release. Cast includes Charles Delaney, Vera Reynolds, Carroll Nye, Wesley Barry, William Desmond. Directed by Stuart Paton. Story by Arthur Hoerl. Cameraman, Jules Cronjager. At Stanley, New York, one day, Aug. 4. Running time, 60 mins.

A real old-fashioned newspaper hoke meller, meant for the grind and double features from here to Frisco.

Story completely goofy, about a reporter (Charles Delaney) turning sleuth, to quote the dialog, and proving the story's villain is the villain and the murderer of the heroine's brother. But the audience, wherever there will be one, knows that, so there's nothing to hold interest.

Old hoke about a tough city editor, reporters fighting for scoops, and, finally, the editor holding the presses while the reporter does his stuff. Even goes so far as to have the c. e. give the phone to a rewrite man, with the rewrite man a stutterer and the story supposedly important, like the other and better ones.

Acting, direction, photography and sound bad. Vera Reynolds had two chances to emote and did plenty.

## THREE WHO LOVED

Radio Pictures production and release. Directed by George Archainbaud. Betty Compson starred. Cast includes Conrad Nagel, Robert Ames, Robert Emmett O'Connor, Bodil Rosing and Dickie Moore. Story by Martin Flavin. Nick Musuraca, cameraman. At Loew's New York, one day, Aug. 3. Running time, 63 mins.

Martin Flavin, who wrote this story, also wrote "Criminal Code." It is hard to believe the same man turned out one story with so much body and the other so weak-kneed. This idea is the eternal triangle with the supposed good pal trying to steal the girl from his friend. Pretty lightweight for anywhere. But may get some added value from names in cast.

Betty Compson plays a Swedish girl whose sweetheart, working in an American bank, sends for her to come to America and marry him. She arrives full of Svenska in her talk, but after being here for a few hours suddenly speaks rather fair English. She picks up other ideas, too, from Robert Ames, while her intended, Conrad Nagel, is struggling over the midnight oil to better himself and become a lawyer.

Ames lures Betty all around the lot, with Nagel being told by his aunt to marry the girl before he loses her. Nagel is playing the stock market and steals $10,000 from Ames' till in the same bank. Ames is sent to prison. He escapes five years later to find Nagel and Betty married, and living in a mansion of many acres while raising their son.

Nagel's conscience bothers him. He is about to confess the crime when the police shoot and kill Ames. Nagel still insists on making a confession, with the picture fading as Betty clings to him, whispering she'll wait and wait. *Earl.*

## The Man They Couldn't Arrest

(ENGLISH MADE)

London, Aug. 1.

Gainsborough production. Released through Ideal Films, branch of Gaumont British. Directed by T. Hayes Hunter, from story by "Sapper." Photography, L. Rowson. In cast: Hugh Wakefield, Nicholas Hannen, Gordon Harker, Garry Marsh, Robert Farquharson, Renee Clama. Length, 5,657 feet. Running time, 75 mins. Censor's Certificate "U." Reviewed Phoenix Theatre, London, July 24.

Certainly over the average of the British thrillers, with a well-knit story, somewhat old-fashioned perhaps, but little the worse for that. Hard-boiled eggs may regard it as too much of the creaking meller variety, but for the general provincial fans, good material for this side.

Story, one of "Sapper's" best-known efforts, tells how a man who calls himself "The Ghost" keeps informing Scotland Yard of the future activities of a gang known as the Black Pearl. Result is he prevents a big robbery.

One of the members of the gang is the father of the girl the Ghost is in love with, and he warns him off from the robbery, saving him from arrest. Result is the father goes to the Ghost's apartment. He is about to name the leader of the gang when that leader bumps him off through the skylight. Evidence points to the Ghost having done it and the Yard trail him, but after the usual set-to he handed the Count over to the Yard.

Picture is good on incident, suspense values and much over English standard, and the scientific workshops where the Ghost listens in is a much more imaginative piece of work than is usually expected on this side. Art direction, indeed, is good.

Taking it all 'round, the film, while perhaps old-fashioned in its structure of anonymous letters and things, is hearty entertainment of its type. Likelihood it will prove an exhibiting investment in the popular stands.

Huge Wakefield is not usually cast as a pursuer of crooks, but does fairly well, better when handling straight stuff in his more usual debonair fashion. Gordon Harker clicks as a thug, giving a typical Harker character study—always worth watching. Garry Marsh heavy enough for the Scotland Yard man, Nicholas Hannen indifferent is the head crook, with Renee Clama not exactly overworked as the femme lead.

Recording and photography okay. Londoners get a slant on a street raid in their own city, staged in Kingsway, leading thoroughfare here. *Chap.*

## DER WAHRE JACOB

("The True Jacob")
(GERMAN-MADE)
(With Songs)

Lothar Stark production and Transatlantic release. Based on a play by Arnold and Bach. Directed by Hans Steinhoff; music, Arthur Guttman and H. J. Salter. At the Belmont, N. Y., for grind run, beginning Aug. 6. Running time, 80 mins.

Peter Struwe.....Ralph Arthur Roberts
Mila.....Hansi Arnstaedt
Yvette.....Anni Ahlers
Boecklein.....Felix Bressart
Lotte.....Margot Walter
Geheimrat Stuelpnagel.....Paul Henkels
Count Birckstaedt.....Julius Falkenstein
James.....Viktor de Kowa
Anna.....Vicky Werkeister
Fred.....Harry Halm

"Der Wahre Jacob" is an ancient and well known farce in Germany.

(Continued on page 34)

# AN EVENT
## *Is as Important As You Make It.*

EVERY theatre in America now using Fanchon & Marco Ideas contracted for these shows because of their PROVEN REPUTATION. This being true it is interesting to observe that wherever Fanchon and Marco Ideas have been sold to the public through advertising and publicity the Ideas themselves have backed up the press campaigns.

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# HOT OR NOT, IT'S KNOCKING

**The biggest money-maker of the year! Ripped grosses wide open in 53 first runs!**

**Held over everywhere! Return dates piling up!**

**Reach for a *VARIETY*. Turn to the box-office receipts. And read that the outstanding smash hit of 1931 is**

# Constance BENNETT

With JOEL McCREA, Lew Cody, Robert Williams, Hedda Hopper, Marion Shilling.
From the novel by Robert W. Chambers. Screen Play by John Farrow.
Directed by PAUL L. STEIN.
A CHARLES R. ROGERS PRODUCTION
ASSOCIATE PRODUCER, HARRY JOE BROWN

# RECORDS COLD!

# July Production Survey

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Production continued its slide from the early June peak to a low in the last days of July below any of the previous depressed spots of the last few years. Less than 20 features, including quickies, were in production the last 10 days of the month. Average for the entire month was just over 25 features active, ranging from 35 (July 2 and 3) to the bottom at 17 from July 24 to 27.

Average was a drop of 13 features from the June figure.

Metro, with no jump over its June activity, when it was fourth on the list, was the busiest major lot last month. Fox slid back to an average of three units, about four less than June. Paramount, Radio and Columbia were working about two units less apiece, and Warners was just out of the picture.

Only studio on the coast averaging a unit more than in June was Metropolitan, which was dark most of the previous month.

Thirty-four features were completed and only 24 new ones went into production during July. Pick-up indicated so far this month, with 25 features in production last week.

## JULY PDODUCTION AVERAGES

in 18 Active Coast Studios

| | —July 1931 Units Active— | | | —Year Averages— | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Features | Shorts | Total | 1930 | 1929 | 1928 |
| **Feature Studios** | | | | | | |
| Metro | 4.6 | .. | 4.6 | 5.4 | 5.1 | 5.3 |
| Universal | 3.4 | .3 | 3.7 | 3.8 | 5.7 | 4.2 |
| Pathe | 2.0 | 1.5 | 3.5 | 2.2 | 1.4 | 2.1 |
| Fox | 3.0 | .. | 3.0 | 5.8 | 6.1 | 6.8 |
| United Artists | 2.7 | .. | 2.7 | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1.7 |
| Paramount | 2.5 | .. | 2.5 | 4.5 | 4.0 | 7.4 |
| Radio | 1.8 | .2 | 2.0 | 2.9 | 2.0 | 2.3 |
| Columbia | 1.0 | .1 | 1.1 | 2.1 | 1.5 | 2.3 |
| Tiffany | .8 | .. | .8 | 1.7 | 1.5 | 2.5 |
| Warner-FN | .5 | .. | .5 | 6.8 | 8.1 | 13.1 |
| **Leasing Studios** | | | | | | |
| Metropolitan | .8 | .7 | 1.5 | 1.9 | 2.9 | 2.6 |
| Tec-Art | .9 | .. | .9 | 1.3 | 1.9 | 2.3 |
| Cinephone | .8 | .. | .8 | .. | .. | .. |
| Educational | .. | .6 | .6 | .6 | .9 | 1.3 |
| National | .4 | .. | .4 | .4 | .7 | .8 |
| Darmour | .. | .3 | .3 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.2 |
| **Comedy Studios** | | | | | | |
| Roach | .. | .9 | .9 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.3 |
| Sennett | .. | .8 | .8 | .7 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| **Working Daily** | 25.2 | 5.4 | 30.6 | 43.6 | 46.4 | 58.2 |

(Average total units daily so far in 1931: January, 35; February, 33.5; March, 38.5; April, 32.4; May, 36.7; June, 43.5; July, 30.6.)

## 34 FEATURES COMPLETED ON THE COAST IN JULY, 1931

(Including One Spanish, One Revision)

| | Shooting Days |
|---|---|
| **METRO** | |
| "Horseflesh" | 37 |
| "Susan Lenox | 36 |
| "The Guardsman" | 23 |
| "West of Broadway" | 23 |
| "Modern Age" (revision) | 22 |
| **FOX** | |
| "Skyline" | 35 |
| "Wicked" | 29 |
| "Mama" (Spanish) | 18 |
| "Midnight Cruise" | 17 |
| **PARAMOUNT** | |
| "Huck Finn" | 37 |
| "Road to Reno" | 31 |
| "Daughter of the Dragon" | 26 |
| **COLUMBIA** | |
| "Fifty Fathoms Deep" | 34 |
| "Then Hell Broke Loose" | 11 |
| "Duty Bound" | 10 |
| **TIFFANY** | |
| "Morals for Women" | 11 |
| "The Monster Kills" | 11 |
| "Range Law" | 11 |
| **UNITED ARTISTS** | |
| "Palmy Days" | 33 |
| "Street Scene" | 23 |
| **PATHE** | |
| "Eddie Cuts In" | 31 |
| "Sundown Trail" | 10 |
| **UNIVERSAL** | |
| "Waterloo Bridge" | 32 |
| "The Dead Line" | 18 |
| **SONO-ART** | |
| "The Air Spider" | 9 |
| "Is There Justice?" | 8 |
| **CARR-MONOGRAM** | |
| "Mother and Son" | 8 |
| "The Montana Kid" | 7 |
| **MISCELLANEOUS** | |
| "Local Boy Makes Good" (Warner-FN) | 30 |
| "Fanny Foley Herself" (Radio) | 29 |
| "Hard Hombre" (Allied) | 8 |
| "The Reckless" (Kent) | 7 |
| "Night Life Reno" (Supreme) | 6 |
| Jack Perrin Western (Warner SR) | 4 |

## Playing Safe

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

An actor arriving here from New York under contract to a major studio asked the casting director where he should stay.

"You'd better stay at the Finkelstein Arms," said the c.d. "After we look at your test we may move you to the Ambassador."

*(Variety's Hollywood Bulletin)*

## "Street Scene" at Rivoli

United Artists has pulled "Unholy Garden" from its release schedule as the first of the '31-'32 pictures to become available to its accounts, substituting "Street Scene." As a result latter goes into the Rivoli, New York, Aug. 27 for a run.

Similar releasing and pre-releasing, if any, will occur in other parts of the country with "Garden" on national availability shoved back two weeks.

## SELZNICK'S RELEASE FIGURES IN FINANCES?

No release channel for his own and Louis Milestone's talkers had been settled upon up to yesterday (10) by David Selznick. Selznick is said to have conferred with United Artists and Radio Pictures without a decision with either.

Report is Selznick's financing for his independently produced pictures, if placed in New York, will depend somewhat upon his releasing channel. So far the story goes he has not started to arrange the money end. An account connecting A. C. Blumenthal with Selznick's financing doesn't appear to have gone beyond conversational stages between the two, with Blumenthal apparently ready to invest more talk than cash.

Myron Selznick, now in Mt. Sinai Hospital recuperating from an appendicitis operation, may leave the institution any day.

## EXTRAS' FEAST

### Biggest Mobs in Weeks For Two Hughes Features

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Extras were at their busiest in 11 weeks with the daily average 719 working last week. Thanks to Howard Hughes for the raised average. The Billie Dove picture at United Artists used 118 on a New York street scene Monday.

Rest of the week a Chicago underworld cafe for "Scarface" at Metropolitan studio was using from 200 to 260 people daily.

Feature productions are on the climb, 27 starting out this week and 10 indicated starters.

# Biz Builders for Hot Daze

## Mob Out West Pepping Up B. O.—Keys Take Hints from Sod-Busters

### Sap Socks 'Em Silly

Boggy Centre, Neb.

Mgr. Sap of the Vermin gooled 'em here with smart stunts on "The Passionate Pushover," sex epic, by getting out clever placards reading "I'm a Passionate Pushover," and pinned them on flaps around the parks and beaches, standing town on their ears. Tied up with printer for cards gratis by squaring him with pushover and letting his daughter see great collection of star photos in mgrs. private office. Biz oke even though mob staid away to play around with pushovers as several northbound autos mired in front of theatre stopped in to wait dry roads. This gag should do great any place, as women clubs would be flattered by wise mgrs. who let old gals wear placards.

### Knutt Astounds Natives

Muddy Hollow, Kan.

Screwy Knutt, p. a. of the New Stench, smacked out the best publicity stunt ever pulled here last week, to plug "Mr. Green of Paris," a riskay epic very Frenchy. Screwy tied in with the big milk company here to place capsules of paris green in each qt. bottle of milk. Also in each capsule he placed a slip of paper with show ad on. No one poisoned except a few youngsters who didn't get the subtle gag.

This cost house nothing, as Knutt tied in with Doc Error, who had his phone number on ad in bottle, paying for poison in return.

Biz n. s. g., but sensationalism of ad is bound to be good will builder for any house.

### Another Hot One

Narrow Ruts, Idaho.

Mgr. Blankskull of the Vacant slayed the natives last week in boosting the gangster epic, "You Rat," by tying up with Sue Slug of the asylum for 20 inmates to run around the dept. stores, post office, etc., in teams.

One of each team was a gangster, the other a rat. In each stop the gangster would holler "you rat," and let him have it. Most of the bullets were blanks, but lots of women and kids fainted, so smartly did Blaunkskull stage the ballyhoo.

Biz fair, as gang stuff not liked here, but idea so strong house will surely benefit by good will accruing from ad.

### Tips to Snoring Mgrs.

New York City.

Managers who are in the habt of loafing around their operations between 7 and 10 in the mornings could very well stave off depressions by taking stock of their premises to see that all is okay for the coming winter. He should scale ladders to the roof and test the tar paper or tin for leaks, as sure as you're a foot high those very same leaks will let in water from rains or melting snow.

It's just these little careless things like throwing butts and glowing cigar stubs in dirty corners where there's likely to be papers or kerosene cans that touch off many amusement places throughout the year. A mgr. must use care and brains and avoid thoughtless acts like the above during performances.

Lights, too, can play a great part in your operation. You can put in blue bulbs in summer, and the saps will think it is cool moonlight in your morgue. In winter use red and save steam, as they'll fan themselves under crimson lights. Very simple to get bulbs gratis by tying in with Light and Power Co. It will grab at the chance to fill your lobby with washing machines, dynamos, furnaces, etc., for the courtesy of using its colored lamps. Be sure to leave small space in lobby, so any customer who might drop in can get to the B. O.

### Laughs at Bonus Gag

Cattle Run, Wyo.

Abe Shustring, who owns a string of galleries in this section, roared when asked if he would take Sam Katz' tip to slip the house mgrs. a little extra for good will.

"Tell Katz I said his bonus thing is the nuts!" shrieked Abe. "Me, I got a better way to please my boys. I let 'em put their wives in the B. O. and they themselves go on the door, which saves me a bonus."

Asked if he didn't get a terrible trimming by the mgrs. and wives, Abe said "No, they can't go too strong, for if the joint goes red I padlock it quick. They go easy, knowing the racket is only good while the house is running."

**(Contributed)**

## LOEW'S MIXED FILM POLICY AT VICTORY

Loew's Victory theatre in the Bronx will institute a new policy starting Saturday (22). The house, straight pictures for years, will play the big feature of the week three days starting on Saturdays. Tuesdays and Wednesdays the theatre will play double features and may try the same for Thursdays and Fridays.

Victory, half owned by Loew's and half by A. Picker, the Loew metropolitan picture booker, is now in direct competition with Loew's National, former vaudefilmer, which went straight pictures a few weeks ago.

## Fox Ducks Litigation In Involved Color Suit

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

After two years' arguing, Fox has won its point and deposited in court $5,900 owed for process work on "Sunrise" and "Red Dance" for various claimants to fight over.

Suit was originally brought against Fox by a receiver for Patents Process, Inc., in behalf of the divorced wife of Frank D. Williams, process expert. Purchaser of Williams' business and equipment at a sheriff's sale horned into the suit with a $30,000 claim against Fox.

A trustee in bankruptcy for both the Process company and Williams also attempted to get in.

## WEIL'S "INTERVIEWS"

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Jesse Weil, indie producer, will make a set of one reelers titled "Screen Interviews." Pictures are made at the homes of stars, with Grace Elliott doing the interviewing.

Talking Picture Epics will release.

## "Disorderly" in N. Y.

East to supervise shooting of scenes around New York for Fox's "Disorderly Conduct," John W. Considine, Jr., got in yesterday (Monday) with camermen and crew.

He will stay a week or 10 days getting atmospheric background for the picture.

## HOLLYWOOD SHORTS

*By Claude Binyon*

Hollywood, Nov. 6.

Dear Ma:

You make me sick. Every time I get in a jam and need some help from you and that old monkey wrench you married I get a weeping letter about how disappointed the family is in me. I'm telling you I'm as pure as any girl in Hollywood, and if you don't believe in me I might as well disown my own family.

Why didn't you send me some money to get me out of jail when I wrote that check for the rent? If you think you are heartbroken you should have been in my shoes.

I finely got a hold of Mr. Bentle the supervisor and he took care of the bill. Imagine how mortarfied I was when I found out Mr. Bentle was married and told him I knew. It was certainly a shock to me but he paid the bill in a hurry. I guess the reason he paid was that he had been up to the apartment a couple of times but only in a fatherly way and his wife might not understand if I told her.

I wonder whatever happened to that writer I met in Reno who was going to star me in pictures. I still can't remember his name. I think I'll get a job as a waitress and save up enough money to come home. I'm sick of this burg.

How are the kids and don't let them spoil the wallpaper in my room before I get back. Is pa still smelling the house up with his beer? Love, *Elsie.*

Dear Ma:

Well, I'm working as a waitress. Mr. Bentle got me the job because he and the owner, a man named Henry, are mutuel friends of somebody. Mr. Bentle said it was the last thing he'd ever do for me and I said I didn't know about that. I don't see how I ever could have admired that bum.

I only been working one day and my feet hurt terrible. Quite a few actors and actresses come here to say nothing of peasants and youd think all they eat for is to ball the poor waitresses out.

Ma, if you can help me along by sending some money so I wont have to work forever as a waitress to get home I'll pay you back as soon. If you could only see people ordering your poor daughter around as though she was nothing but a common servant it would break your heart.

Give my love to pa and the kids.

Your loving daughter, *Elsie.*

Hollywood, Nov. 16.

Dear Ma:

Please send those low heeled oxfords of mine and that dress with

(Continued on page 62)

## NAME PEOPLE DOING 2-REEL SERIAL AT U

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Indicative of the more or less prominent picture names at liberty, Universal has the following lineup for its "Shadow Detective" serial: Lina Basquette, James Murray, Stanley Fields and Jason Robards.

Series is being made in conjunction with "Detective Magazine." Kirt Neuman is to direct.

## Jack Sullivan Away

Jack Sullivan, Fox film buyer, has left New York on a tour of the Fox theatres, east and west, to talk over new product problems with the operators in the field.

He'll probably be gone two months, half of which or more may be spent at the Fox W.C. headquarters.

## TIBBETT IN "CUBAN"

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Lawrence Tibbett's next and fourth talker for Metro will spot him in Cuba. It's to be "The Cuban," with W. S. Van Dyke directing.

Support cast will include Lupe Velez, Karen Morley, Cliff Edwards and Ernest Torrence.

## B&K Execs on Radio Tell Chi About '31-'32

Chicago, Aug. 10.

B&K executive heads went on the air last week in line with an institutional campaign plugging the new season's crop of pictures and stage shows. B&K also went splurge in the dailies, running full page ads.

Louis Lipstone, head of the production department, talked over the ether about the technical ends of stage shows and back stage atmosphere. He was followed by Barney Balaban discoursing over theatre policy, etc. While pre-season campaigns is not new this is the first time here execs have reached out for direct contact with the public.

## Lazarus' Return Date

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Jeff Lazarus, division manager for Hughes-Franklin, is in a Hollywood hospital having his tonsils amputated. Expected out tomorrow (11).

This is a return engagement at the hospital, Lazarus playing there a month ago with an infection of the same tonsils.

"Marvelous picture. Deserves an editorial."
—*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*

"Going to make a lot of money for you and a lot of goodwill for the industry."
—*Jason S. Joy (Hays Organization)*

"You've got to invent new superlatives to describe this 1931 sensation."—*Film Daily.*

"Warners have clicked again."—*N. Y. American.*

**Sends The Whole Country Into A Frenzy Of Ticket Buying**

**AVAILABLE NOW!**

**Play it with the nation's leading theatres.**

**Sweltering heat! Stifling humidity! 93 in the shade! Yet thousands jam the biggest theatres to learn why the critics call it "THE BEST MOTION PICTURE IN YEARS!"**

with
**WALTER HUSTON**
**CHARLES "CHIC" SALE**
DICKEY MOORE
GRANT MITCHELL
FRANCES STARR
SALLY BLANE
RALPH INCE
ROBT. ELLIOTT

*Directed by WILLIAM A. WELLMAN*

# First of the 70 reasons why this is WARNERS *year!*

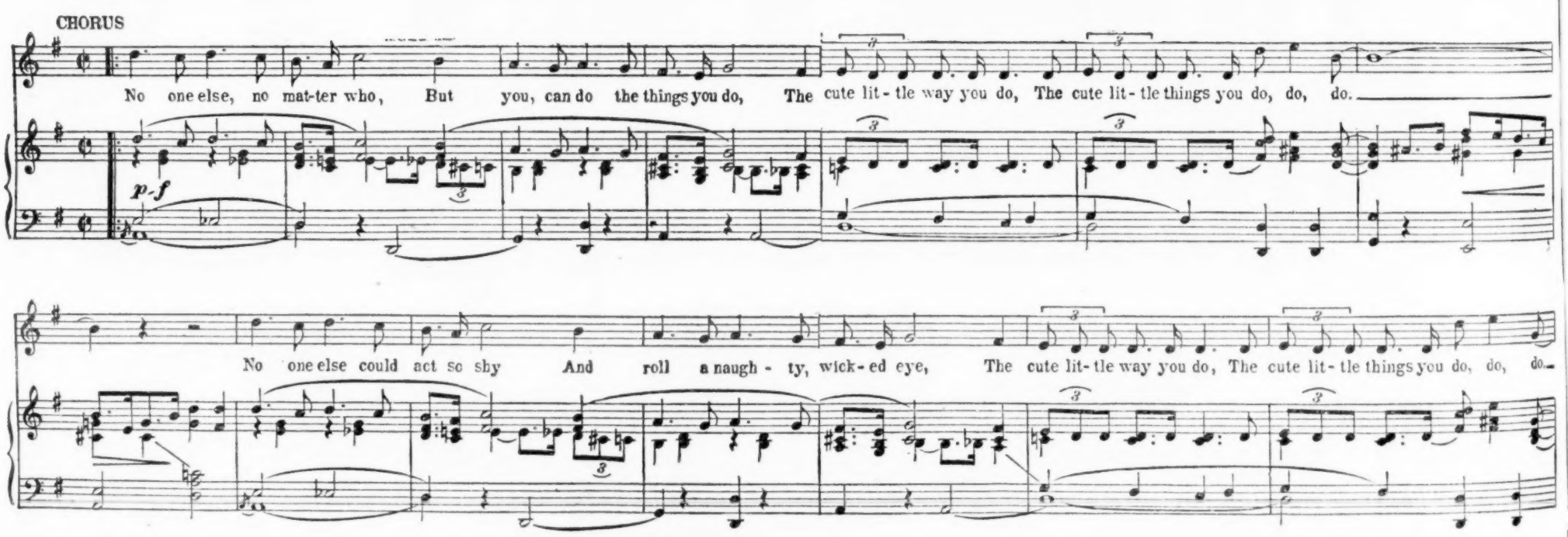
**(More than your contract calls for)**

# Here's the first SONG HIT

**Fifi Dorsay sings it. And how Will Rogers steps to it! They'll walk out of the theatre humming it, singing the praises of this gayest of comedies.**

**This infectious tune by James F. Hanley, America's popular song writer, is sweet medicine for that tired feeling. Like the picture, it carries you off your feet!**

# The Cute Little Things You Do




**EXHIBITORS! ORCHESTRAS! ORGANISTS! SINGERS! RADIO STATIONS! MUSIC AND RECORD DEALERS!**

*Tie up with this great picture that the public is flocking to see! "The cutest little thing you can do" is to wire, write or phone for full details to*

FOX SONGS · FIRST IN ENTERTAINMENT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD · FOX PICTURES

**SAM FOX PUBLISHING COMPANY**

CLEVELAND · CHICAGO · LOS ANGELES · LONDON · PARIS · BERLIN · MELBOURNE · NEW YORK

# HIT of the new FOX season

# WILL Rogers

in

# YOUNG AS YOU FEEL

with

FIFI DORSAY • LUCIEN LITTLEFIELD
DONALD DILLAWAY • TERRANCE RAY • ROSALIE ROY

From play by George Ade • Directed by **Frank Borzage**

**NOW AT THE ROXY**

### PACKS LAUGHS GALORE

Lots of laughs are certain when a story and director turn Will Rogers and Fifi Dorsay loose to strut their stuff. This is what happens at the Roxy. And that accounts for the merriment which echoes through its cool depths.

*—Regina Crewe, New York American*

### BETTER THAN EVER

Will Rogers is better than ever in "Young as You Feel". . . His fun is infectious . . . It's a livelier and snappier Rogers than I've ever seen before.

*—Kate Cameron, New York Daily News*

### MADE SPECTATORS FORGET SCORCHING SUN

Will Rogers made Roxy spectators forget the scorching sun outside..."Young as You Feel" has its quota of laughable incidents and merry patter.

*—Mordaunt Hall, New York Times*

### A DANDY

Will Rogers is a guarantee of great comedy . . . As splendid as ever . . . First rate fun. You'll enjoy it.

*—Bland Johaneson, New York Daily Mirror*

# Burlesque-Drama-Vaude Mixed In Continuous 15c Show for Houses Too Poor for Films

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Two former grind picture parlors have just tossed out their projectors and have opened up with continuous flesh entertainment at 10 and 15 cents.

These theatres are the U. S. and the National, spotted down in the second-hand-clothes and flop-house district south of the loop on State street. They found it impossible to operate at the stiff costs for union help and pictures. Both report business on the increase for their grind stage shows.

Shows are strictly cheap-john stuff, but are managing to please the audiences. Both stores are giving the public two shows and advertised as such. The U. S. is offering two distinct burlesque units; while the National gives 'em a burleycue revue and a regular dramatic show. Both programs average about two hours.

Performers do from six to seven shows a day. At the U. S. each company draws a chorus of five girls, and a trio of principals, which includes comics and prima. Production is of the simplest: a line routine from the chorus, led by one of the gals, then a comedy bit, followed again by the chorus. And so on for 45 minutes. Intermission, with the audience asked to go for candy, but with hot pictures and stories as the real attraction.

**No Strip**

Stage is only wide enough for the five girls. No scenery, with the curtain merely a set of drapes from the sides. Musical accompaniment

(Continued on Page 40)

## Special Invite Shows

At the suggestion of Sam Goldwyn, United Artists is planning a special invitation performance of "Street Scene" only for newspaper men, name writers and other local lights in the literary, financial and social world, Aug. 26. It will be held at the Rivoli where "Scene" begins a run the following day (27).

Goldwyn is anxious to try similar invite performances out of town, mainly Chicago, Philadelphia and L. A.

## Tiff's 10 for Woods

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Johnny Jones has bought the lineup of 10 Tiffany features for the loop Woods.

Besides, Jones has 23 Columbia films, and figures that with a couple of spot bookings, should be able to last through the entire season.

## Par Studio Banquet

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Paramount will hold a formal banquet for its studio organization at the French room of the Ambassador evening of Aug. 14.

Jesse Lasky official host.

## Hitchock with Horne

Eddie Hitchcock joined advertising staff of United Artists yesterday (Monday), under Hal Horne.

## *Talking Shorts*

(Continued from page 19)

He appears here, as usual, in a student costume at the head of a table of revellers in a beer hall.

Asked to sing a song he obliges with the one the film is named after. Entire company joins in for a third chorus and steins are turned up for a finishing swallow.

Baumann is under contract in America to NBC but doubtful whether even that would make this film any kind of a draw exce; t in German circles. Song has a fair melody but doesn't justify the length of seven minutes. *Kauf.*

**"BUMBO AND BETTY"**
**Cartoon**
**7 Mins.**
**Criterion, N. Y.**
**Paramount**

In and out ink effort of average quality. Has the figures talking, with this phase of the comedy in the voices rather than the dialog.

Continuity not as good as usual, sequences being abruptly dropped, but rates fairly in its highly competitive class. *Sid.*

**"ALTE KLEIDER"**
**("Old Clothes")**
**GERMAN MADE**
**Comedy Sketch**
**14 Mins.**
**Cosmopolitan, N. Y.**
**Ufa**

Nice comedy skit for German audiences. Well made and splendidly acted by a name cast. A gem for the German houses as shorts in foreign languages are few and far between.

Ufa evidently uses its regular first rank actors in short subjects. In this one are Paul Morgan, Felix Bressart, Else Reval and Siegfred Arno. All are well known in German films, the first two having star rating in features.

It's built around a second-hand clothes store with some of the action borrowed from Eddie Cantor's similar old sketch. To sell clothes the storekeeper (Morgan) hits on the idea of putting pocketbooks into the pockets with the intent of fooling customers into thinking they're getting extra bargains. First coat he gets rid of this way is his own with his own pocketbook. *Kauf.*

**PATHE AUDIO REVIEW**
**No. 6**
**8 Min.**
**Loew's, New York**
**Pathe**

Pampas grass, dogs and pigs serve as a preface to the featurette in this review, but Henry Ford's Thomas Edison collection gets the major interest.

Ford's assortment includes everything from the railroad station where Edison first worked to the first incandescent bulb and first wired residence. Short could be confined to this item and be interesting. *Waly.*

**SPORTLIGHT**
**GRANTLAND RICE**
**"Poise"**
**10 Mins.**
**Mayfair, N. Y.**
**Radio Pathe**

More diversified and interesting than the average Rice short. Girl archers, Dazzy Vance fishing and hooking a big one, golf shots, are all subordinated to an all-round college athlete who is shown throwing everything, from the discus to himself in a high vault. *Waly.*

# Fox Theatres Withdrawing from Union Labor Conferences in East

Fox Theatres, according to inside, is pulling out of the annual labor confabs between the unions and the circuits and will negotiate separately. This takes in Fox houses on both coasts. Feeling so far as known being that Fox feels the union discrimination against circuits in favor of indie operators is such as not to work out beneficially with Fox houses.

Latter are figured not to be classed with certain other houses of other circuits. In the majority of instances the Fox houses are described as "C" theatres, while other conditions make the union requisites tough for Fox to carry.

Another angle which may give reason to the Fox stand is the decision by that management to decentralize its circuit in the east and break it up into smaller and more compact groups under a localized operation scheme. On that plane it's figured more advisable for these groups when so formed to negotiate independently. However, that Fox West Coast may also pull out may serve to indicate that the decentralization has been decided upon for Fox West Coast, also. That's not certain, however.

Loew's is infoed as being fixed about the same as Fox in the east, and many of the Warner sites are also similar. Whether the Fox angle will impel similar action by these two on that basis so far has not been intimated.

RKO and Publix are also in general on the union confab.

## Wilstach's Good Time

Frank Wilstach Sunday broke his own speed record in returning to New York from Lake George. The Hays publicity chief has made the trip to the lake about 50 times in the last five years.

Returning over the week end he covered the course in five hours and 45 minutes.

## *Exploitations*

(Continued from page 18)

be written are given out only at the theatre with ticket purchases and may be deposited inside the theatre or at any Chevrolet agency. On the night the awards are made the winners, to be eligible to receive the automobiles, must be present at one of the Minneapolis Publix theatres.

A big parade of automobiles and Fanchon & Marco Sunkist beauties from the "Sketches" unit launched the opening of the contest. Chevrolet contributes the automobiles and is doing considerable newspaper advertising to plug the affair and the theatres and their attractions figure in all the ads. There are Minnesota and State ads, too, at all the Chevrolet agencies. Chevrolet contributes the automobiles in return for advertising in the theatre lobbies and on the screens.

The theatres are under no added expense.

### Talker Tests Win

London.

London picture theatres are offering talker tests at which each performance a number of persons are tested on the stage with an immediate playback. Each night a number are selected to go to Elstree studios next day for camera test. A reel of this result is shown in the theatre the following Monday. It's helping business.

### Uses Detectives

Baltimore.

As advance publicity for "Murder by the Clock," at Loew's Century, W. K. Saxton, city manager, and Arnold Stoltz, press representative, had 22 detectives as guests of a special showing.

Six of the 22 spotted the screen murderer, so Saxton lined 'em up and presented a loving cup while Hearst News shot the bunch.

### Lets Radio Help

Hazelton, Pa.

Plugging "The Smiling Lieutenant," Ben M. Cohan eased on his space for the Capitol theatre to let a radio dealer help out. Dealer used a double col. nearly page length with a picture of Chevalier and the top copy, "See and hear him at the Capitol or via new 1932 Crosley radio. Maurice Chevalier will afford you many a laugh in 'The Smiling Lieutenant'."

### Swaps Ads

Hanford, Cal.

Merchants are giving Hanford theatre ad space in the borders of their ad spaces in return for a screen campaign on "trade at home" movement.

Stores run house and current play title instead of usual border, and spread theatre ad all over the paper. House pays for the slides and merchants buy the space


THE 7th INTERNATIONAL NUMBER

IN

VARIETY

WILL BE ISSUED

SEPTEMBER 8th, NEXT

This is the usual annual special number, covering the show business of the world.

As the only international trade paper medium of the world's show business, "VARIETY" presents each summer this opportunity for those on top and under the world to greet one another.

Through the date of issue, Sept. 8th, day after Labor Day, the International Number can be utilized for anyone wishing to make an announcement at the opening of the new show season.

Advertising rates unchanged for the special number.

# Bicycling Charges Filed Against Texas Exhibs—May Have Jury Edge

Dallas, Aug. 10.

Copyright Bureau crusade against Texas bicyclers continues, with some specific results for the distributors.

Charges for alleged holdover of film recently filed here against E. E. Lutz, Dallas exhib, operating houses in two west Tex. towns. At Beaumont, east Tex., similar suit brought against R. P. Cooper and Walter Stoppleman, operating stands in Kirbyville and Silsbee. Latter case involves Fox, M-G-M, U, and P-P, each demanding settlement for violations on individual picts.

T. M. Dunn and J. W. Courtney, partners in the Resort Amusement Co., Mineral Wells, weren't accused of bicycling but were booked for inaccurate b.o. reports, which to C.B. is just as bad.

Latest development in the ruckus indicates Copyright's shift to the keys. Hereto, C.B. cops had pulled their dragnet through the sticks, where, seemingly, bicycling was more prevalent. As soon as legal routine on these violations is disposed of, exhits in the larger burgs will get a look-in.

So far, none of the cases has reached a trial. Making it problematic, both for C.B. and the indies, with no court decish to set up as a precedent. Furthermore, in spite of its hard boiled attitude, C.B. has no definite assurance that a Texas jury will uphold the distribs' arguments on contract violations. A keen situation by virtue of fact that most of the suits involve well entrenched natives against chain controlled organizations. Past experience shows that Texas jurors are prone to favor the natives.

### Sentiment

Recent bulletin to the exhibs from H. A. Cole, head of Tex. Allied, tends to create considerable sentiment for them along that line. Cole attacks current methods of booking and high pressure film peddlers as conducive to considerable bicycling. Typical booking gag, says Cole, is a rental-percentage contract, where exhib signs up for so many picts at flat rental, with the distrib retaining right to reserve about 12 for percentage basis and also right to select the 12. Cole maintains that three-fourths of current films are losers for the small towners and that the distrib naturally picks the money makers for his 12. Leaving exhib little alternative.

Cole further alleges that many exhibs signed this kind of contract because the film salesman or branch mgr. assured them that the exchange wouldn't check the b.o. and a little gypping wouldn't be amiss.

Which all may make a strong argument for some of the indies in court.

## SUED BY LAIT, ROGELL SUES TIFF FOR $100,000

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Al Rogell, now an RKO-Pathe director, and Rogell Productions have retained Charles Kenneth Feldman in a $100,000 damage suit against Tiffany, Grant Cook and L. A. Young arising from a four-picture distribution arrangement in which "Aloha" was the first.

Rogell contends he wasn't permitted to deliver "Gangster Girl" after buying Jack Lait's serial for his second, and as a result Lait is now suing both Rogell and Tiff for damages through non-payment on his story.

## U. A. Dates 12

Revising its release schedule, United Artists has set dates on 12 pictures, taking national availability up to Feb. 13. The average, under the changes ordered, is two a month.

"Street Scene" is on national release Sept. 5, "Unholy Garden" following Sept. 19.

### Freedman Writing

Universal City, Aug. 10.

Sam Freedman, Universal shorts supervisor, has been switched to the writing department by the studio's curtailment of shorts production.

With Robert Hill he will write the adaptation and dialog for the "Shadow Detective" series.

## STEFFE'S 10c HOUSE

### Say Exchanges Are Out to 'Get It'—Threatening

Minneapolis, Aug. 10.

W. A. Steffes, Northwest Allied States, is up on his ear and charging through a local trade paper that exchanges here are out to get his neighborhood theatre by an agreement to place show houses in a "six-month" classification when and if showing for 10c. after 6 p.m. in first class cities. He threatens prosecutions for alleged anti-trust law violations.

Steffes inaugurated a 10c. admission at his theatre between 5 and 7.30 p.m. daily and the cut price war has been on ever since. Now exchanges and exhibitors are trying to eliminate the 10c. admission, but Steffes insists that he'll maintain whatever scale he pleases. He claims the low price is necessary to enable him to compete with some of the loop Publix houses.

## LOBBY DISPLAY OUT IN PENN.

Harrisburg, Pa., Aug. 10.

Pennsylvania Department of Labor is warning exhibs not to use lobbies to display merchandise. It is against the state law to place any movable object in the lobby, and it is asserted that some theatres have been going too far in displays of merchandise intended for patrons.

Warning bulletin cites one instance of a theatre having on display at one time an automobile, refrigerator, kitchen range and a washing machine.

Department has jurisdiction over all houses other than in cities of the first and second class, and threatens to do something unpleasant about it.

## Gets $145,727 Judgment Vs. Pathe After 5 Years

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

Five years' litigation over an indie production deal with Pathe wound up last week with a judgment of $145,727 for N. H. Spitzer. Spitzer pays over $64,370 of it and interest to Cinema Finance Corp., co-plaintiff.

Deal made with Pathe Exchange, Inc., in April, 1925, called for a series of feature comedies to be directed by Grover Jones after Pathe okayed the stories. First completed, "Heirlooms," was refused by Pathe, which cancelled the agreement. Court held the distributors liable for expenses on the initial film, less $9,196 obtained from foreign rights.

## PEP CLUB NEW PRES?

### Lots of Excitement Over Many Candidates

Trade problems, pressing show business needs, the weather, deflated grosses and other matters have been shoved away aside within Paramount and Publix ranks, with tension running high within as to who will be the next Pep Club prexy. After a week of deliberation, the nominating committee is still in a huddle and reported nearly dead-locked.

Fred Metzler, president, is going out of the honorary office in October.

Nominating committee is said to have so many names before it for consideration the committee is getting snowed under. Latest dope is that if the present dead-lock doesn't loosen, the committee may sweep the present contenders for nomination off the desk with the selection of a film salesman, muggs who seldom get a break.

### Lukas' New Title

A new story is to be used for Paul Lukas as a substitution for "Wound Stripes," working title of which is "Bachelor," Paramount has decided.

"Once a Lady" is the release title picked in favor of "Notoriety," another forthcoming Par picture.

## Show Business

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

Along dark Spring street grind house was reopened a couple of months ago with the announcement that profits would go to the unemployed. House tried 15 cents for a while, then five cents, show consisting of one feature and a comedy. When the hot weather hit, the house offered free lemonade.

To save expenses, a horoscope ballyhooer was given a concession in the lobby and doubled as ticket seller. Theatre is now dark again "for the summer," but the concessionaire is staying on outside.

## FOX'S UPSTATE HOUSES WITH COMERFORD

Comerford-Fox deal for the Fox houses in upper New York state looks set for completion current week with Comerford beginning operation of the houses in negotiation around Sept. 1. Deal comprises around 38 houses, valued at upwards of $2,000,000. This deal is a straight out-and-out affair whereby Comerford takes over all Fox leases in that sector, paying Fox stipulated rent.

Marshall Taylor, Fox division manager, may be retained by Comerford as chief operator in the territory. Present Fox headquarters are in Syracuse which thus will automatically be shifted over to Comerford control.

The deal leaves Fox without a house in upper New York state. It is likely a Fox Film franchise was part of the Comerford buying incentive and will go with the setup as negotiated.

## RKO Nips Columbia Bookings for St. Paul

St. Paul, Aug. 10.

Local Columbia exchange was halted in trying to double up on RKO here. The Garrick, indie grind, had "Flight" booked for three days, day and date with "Dirigible" at the Orpheum, and attempted to capitalize on latter's extensive ballyhoo of Jack Holt and Ralph Graves.

Ray O'Connell, RKO manager, demanded the booking be cancelled and it was after the indie crowd had started its ad campaign. Second booking cancelled was that of "Miracle Woman" which the local Columbia boys had set for the White Bear theatre, 10 miles out at lake resort, day and date with the Orpheum showing.

### Gene Zukor Sailing

Eugene Zukor has set Aug. 24 as the tentative date when he will sail for Europe on an inspection tour.

Young Zukor expects to attend the fall opening of the new Paramount at Newcastle, England.

# 5-5-5 Contract Allowed to Slide By Hays Organization's Members

## ST. PAUL SHAKEUP

### Publix Makes Some Changes—Aurelius Is Out

St. Paul, Aug. 10.

Publix sprang a surprise shakeup in loop houses. George Aurelius is out as Paramount house manager, succeeded by Bud Walker, assistant at the Riveria, who will in turn be replaced by Phil Soucy, assistant at the Paramount.

Bill Cassidy moves from the Tower to the Paramount as treasurer with Pat Nieder being brought in from the Capitol, nabe, to take the lower spot. Ed Horrigan is moved from the Strand to become assistant at the Uptown, ace nabe.

Catching the spirit, RKO named Cornelius McNamara to succeed Henry Casselius as chief of service.

## COMBO BILLS, SAY RKO MGRS.

At the RKO divisional managers' meeting in New York last week, the division heads from all over the country made it manifest they believe the combination bill of feature picture and vaudeville is the best policy for RKO to follow this new season.

Recommendation by the division men will carry much weight, it is said, with the circuit's theatre operating heads.

RKO is now known as the vaudeville circuit. Vaude is apt to be extended along its line with the incoming season.

## Mayfair Scale Cuts

RKO Mayfair, New York, reduced some admission prices starting Friday (7). New scale from 10 a. m. to 1 p. m. is 35c. for week days. This is a 5c. drop. Week day nights from 11 to closing, 50.

Saturdays and holidays from 10 a. m. to 1 p. m., 40c., cut of a dime. All other former prices stand with on change.

The big double electric sign has been changed with the 47th street side being stock and the 7th avenue, side alive. The elimination of changing both sides each time a new picture opened at the Mayfair saves the RKO office around $600.

## Buying 3 in Bronx

Deal for the Blenheim, Parkway and Belmont theatres in the Bronx is about set between Fox and Silverman, indie operator who is buying the trio. Silverman is also operator of the Benneson in the Bronx.

Setup runs to around $200,000. Papers as far as known, are not yet signed but negotiations are about completed.

Not the independents but Hays members are responsible for the work of the 5-5-5, on uniform contract practises and arbitration, not being in operation, it is claimed. This is disclosed as the result of several recent gatherings of the Hays body during which the formula of the 5-5-5 was rejected.

Fully three-fourths of the Hays group approved the methods at these secret conferences, but the remainder, listening to their lawyers, it is said, forced the rejection. Fear of the consequences legally, it is learned, is responsible for the tabling of a work which took representative minds of the industry nearly a year to compile.

The decision, until reconsidered and rescinded or modified, means that uniformity is out of picture business from now on, and that distributors, of their own volition, will use nondescript contract forms and argue their disputes with exhibitors either in the office or courtroom.

### Wrong Impression

Revelation of the stand by the Hays group, which has always allowed the impression to prevail that independent organizations responsible for the drawback and delay of the 5-5-5 execution, is a surprise in itself to those who have followed the movements since the Federal court handed down its initial decision on collective functionings of producers-distributors over two years ago.

Instead of being one of the first to consider a plan which was inspired within its own ranks, the Hays office was the last and first to reject the 5-5-5 work.

## 70 WB-FN Pics Split On Chi South Side By Coin Flipping

Chicago, Aug. 10.

With the Paramount-Warner picture deal settled, the two organizations will split the Warner product in the local southside district.

National Theatres, now owned by Warners had the Warner southside franchise while Paramount controlled First National. The National Theatre franchise expired this year with the agreement that at this time the product of both FN and WB would be pooled.

Pooling gives Publix-B. & K. and Warners 35 pictures each, divided equally beforehand, with a coin tossed to determine which company got which half.

## NEW CINCY HOUSE SPLIT WITH UFA-TOBIS FILMS

First booking compromise between Ufa and Tobis for an American theatre was forced yesterday (10) by Dr. Frederick Witte, editor of the Cincinnati "Frie Presse" for his projected Continental theatre in Cinsy. Despite both Ufa and Tobis have been holding out on granting of film franchises for a promise of having the trade name added to the front of the house, Witte signed half year franchise with both in New York yesterday and will use both trade marks on the front of his house.

Witte, for his newspaper, the only German language paper in that territory, recently purchased the Royal theatre at Vine and 8th street, Cincinnati. House is now undergoing alterations. He expects to open it about Sept. 15.

House when completed will have 320 seats. Witte's first intention was to call the theatre Europa, but he changed it to Continental in order not to conflict with the Europa name generally used by Tobis for its theatres.

## 5 Foreign Midnites

RKO's booking office is booking foreign films into five Brooklyn theatres of the Century Circuit for Saturday midnight performances.

Theatres are the Bliss, Merrick, Fantasy and Avalon, Brooklyn, and the Village, Queens. Film selections are being made by Irwin Shapiro, RKO's special booker for the Cameo, New York.

# N. W. "Buyers' Strike" Just a Gag With Minn. Exchanges' Sales Highest Yet

Minneapolis, Aug. 10.

There's supposed to be a "buyers' strike" among Northwest independent exhibitors as a result of instructions from local Allied States' headquarters to do no buying of new film product until after the organization's meeting next month, but local exchanges continue to report record-breaking business.

Ben Marcus, manager of the Minneapolis Columbia exchange, declares he is willing to sign an affidavit that Columbia sales in the territory to date are larger than those for the corresponding period a year ago, in case that anybody questions his word or insists that Northwest exhibitors are refraining from buying.

Other exchanges reporting bigger sales than a year ago include Paramount, Warner Brothers, RKO, and Universal. The Warner business is the biggest in three years.

Since it became known that Bennie Berger, president of Allied, has been buying product for his Bemidji, Minn., house, a number of Allied members have broken over the traces and started to sign contracts. At the Allied convention here next month, a demand will be made from the floor for Berger to explain why his office instructs members to do no buying at the very time he is signing contracts himself.

While exhibitors throughout the territory are complaining about poor business and conditions, there are few theatres for sale except at exorbitant prices and the very theatre owners crying the loudest are in the field for additional houses, according to the exchange men.

Cleveland, July 3
STAND
M
" A him

Pittsburgh, July 2
DOUB
Bigge t O

Minneapolis, Au st 1st
BEST
CIN
Mob Compe s The

ly 3

# ANDEES PACKED SATURDAY MORNING OPENING

A hing Unheard of at the Hippodrome

uly 2

# UBLED USUAL BUSINESS

gest Opening at Warner Theatre in 4 Months

, August 1st

# ST SATURDAY SINCE CIMARRON DESPITE HEAT

mpes Theatre to Open One Hour Earlier 2d Day to Relieve Box-Office Crush

# GIBLE

m Dependable Columbia!

# June Saw Drop of 20.9% in Grosses Of 3 Biggest Keys, Against June, '30

First run grosses in the three biggest keys—New York, Chicago and L. A.—dropped around 20.9% in June over the similar period in 1930. Figure does not include the Mayfair, New York, as that house didn't open until the fall of 1930. Also excludes the Orpheum and Monroe, Chicago, figures for 1930, as houses since have gone subsequent. That's almost 7% compared with the three months preceding, and may indicate the worst tail end season known in 1931.

Total June grosses in 1930 as figured show $1,954,000, compared to $1,544,300 in June, 1931.

While June, 1931, can count around five holdover films, in nearly every case the holdover film declined badly the second stanza. "Daddy Long Legs" (Fox), considered a hit picture, went from $90,000 or so to $78,000 or less at the Roxy, where it showed for three weeks.

Among the holdovers were "Night Angel" (Par), "Indiscreet" (UA), "Smart Money" (WB) and "Transgression" (Radio).

Latter hit an all-time low at the Mayfair on its holdover week on Broadway. Six other new lows were suffered in June to just about make record that way. L. A. counts only one, Par's "Forbidden Adventure," which went to around $11,000 or less at the Paramount there.

Both Chicago and New York have three each that way. Chicago's low ones include "Just a Gigolo" (M-G), at the Chicago, for around $32,000; "Party Husband" (FN), at the Oriental, for around $17,000; and "Transgression" (Radio), at the State-Lake, for $10,000.

June is about the poorest month of the year as a rule for pictures.

## Metro's Low

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

With only one company shooting this week, Metro is at its lowest production ebb for more than a year.

Solo company is the William Haines' unit making "The New Wallingford," latest handle for "Get Rich Quick Wallingford."

Preparing for early starts are "Flying High," additional shots on "Hell Divers," Laurence Tibbett in "The Cuban" and "The Champ," Wallace Beery and Jackie Cooper.

## DER WAHRE JACOB

(Continued from page 22)

where it's been kicking around as a stage play for many years. In film form it is still a very good farce. But it's restricted to those having a thorough knowledge of German. In the nabes and for 25 cents its ought to clean up.

For some reason or other there are two songs. Neither good or necessary.

Comedy is very funny. In fact, it might have a good chance in New York as a play if never previously done. Not especially original but a constant stream of laugh situations and som very good dialog. That, of course, is the worst part of it from an American standpoint. It takes more than a cursory knowledge of highschool German to get it.

Theme has to do with a small town delegation to the Berlin Congress for the Elevation of Public Morals. One of them winds up by making a heavy play for a vaude actress and the other accidentally wanders into a bawdy house. The one who's struck with the actress doesn't realize that she is actually his step-daughter, but the gal, knowing this, draws him out all the way. The other lad spends all of the delegation's money to keep the affair from getting to the police.

Back to the small town and everybody involved in the Berlin adventure is brought in for 15 minutes of hilarious farce of the confusion type with everything, of course, straightened out for two or three weddings.

Ralph Arthur Roberts, in the lead, is a new face for pictures, although well known on the Berlin stage. Too much mugging for pictures. Felix Bressart is excellent, and Anni Ahlers, as the actress, is very pretty, has swell limbs and doesn't mind showing them. Vicky Werkeister and Paul Henkels are good in character parts. Others satisfactory.

Photography and sound are good and Hans Steinhoff's direction sufficiently imaginative and speeded up to serve. In fact, it's about the first German film seen on this side, comedy or otherwise, that doesn't drag. *Kauf.*

**Jack McCoy**, former professional manager for the now defunct Red Star Music company, has joined Con Conrad in the same capacity.

## LAW OF RIO GRANDE

Webb-Douglas production. Distributed by Syndicate Pictures release, starring Bob Custer. Cast includes Betty Mack and Edmund Cobb. Story and continuity by Elizabeth Burbridge and Bennett Cohen. Cameraman, Herbert Kirkpatrick. Directed by Forrest Sheldon. At New York, one-half double bill one day, Aug. 4. Running time, 50 mins.

Just what was or is the law of the Rio Grande was never fully explained. Men can ride horses and chase each other around down there as in other westerns.

The cattle thieves and a skirt, besides dialog and bullets from the sheriff's trusty men.

Sound camera brings out plenty of noise from horses' hoofs, and pistol shots sound like thunder.

And the only voice indicating any reason for being reproduced was the villain's. Rest either spoke or drawled.

Photographically okay, with many of the scenes looking familiar, whether on the Rio Grande or in a Hollywood back yard.

With the entire cast always best when riding. *Mark.*

## EXPRESS 13

### (GERMAN-MADE)

Ufa production and release. Stars Charlotte Susa. Directed by Alfred Zeisler. Story, Rudolph Katscher and Egon Eis. Camera, Werner Brandes; sound, Dr. Gerhard Goldbaum. At the Ufa-Cosmopolitan, N. Y., for grind run beginning Aug. 7. Running time, 65 mins.

Herbert Schmitt.....Heins Koenecke
His wife.....Fee Malten
Dorit.....Charlotte Susa
Urban .....Ludwig Anderson
Gaspar .....Alfred Beierle
Terry .....Victor Schwannecke

Despite having some exceptional photography and being a fine piece of direction, this picture is not good. Besides the story being implausible, lapsing badly in several spots. Charlotte Susa falls down badly in the lead role. For anyone not speaking German the story is almost impossible to follow, restricting it to entirely German audiences. In Germany the title was "D-Zug 13 Hat Verspaetung" ("Train 13 Is Late").

It's a straight drama of political plotters who try to kill the President. They wreck part of the railroad track just a few minutes before the Presidential private train comes by. But the special is stopped just in time, and everything is saved. Then the politicians really get serious through the use of a woman. She lures an unknown stranger. Idea being to steam him up enough to act as foil for a murder. There's an explosion in a cafe, a fire in a picture house, a killing of a detective, and finally a mad dash by the criminals followed by the detectives in another car. The foil gets wise in time to turn the tables and save the President's life, and the plotters are arrested for the finish.

Picture might have gotten over on the action involved except that it's too loosely wound together with a number of obvious gaps in story construction.

Charlotte Susa is a pretty woman and has considerable fame on the other side as an actress. Evidently she's just miscast here. Also Heinz Koenecke as the foil is none too hot. Main cast mention goes to Ludwig Anderson. Alfred Beirle also does well as the chief of police.

Werner Brandes' photography is of high order. *Kauf.*

# *What About Schools?*

### FILM SIDE

(Continued from page 7)

grams in which leading educators appear on the talking screen delivering lectures on numerous subjects are being exhibited daily to the student body. Over 22 speakers are scheduled with lectures extending from 10 to 30 minutes.

Program is under the sponsorship of Electrical Research Products, and is announced as a new experience in teaching methods.

Lynchburg, Va., Aug. 10.

State chamber of commerce and Eastman Teaching Films are cooperating on a picture of the life of George Washington being made at historic points in Virginia.

U. S. army also has a part assisting in war scenes taken around Lexington, Va., where colonial forts and blockhouses have been reconstructed. E. Ellsworth Wood is Washington, and Arthur Burlette Berthelet is directing. Film will be distributed nationally to schools.

Albany, N. Y., Aug. 10.

A wider use of moving pictures in the teaching of history and English in New York state schools was hinted by authorities of the state education department studying the value of pictures in the instruction of the young.

At a recent meeting here of superintendents and state officials headed by Dr. J. Cayce Morrison, assistant commissioner for elementary education, an extensive study was made of the use of pictures and slides for a wider educational purpose.

### Long Dark—House Relights

Evansville, Ind., Aug. 10.

The Majestic, closed for years, reopened Aug. 6 under Loew with a straight picture policy.

Walter DeWitt is Loew general manager here, having the Victory theatre as well.

### BANKERS' SIDE

(Continued from page 7)

recent tests among the 96 or so boys and girls at Washington.

This report shows that the children, on the average, answered correctly 19 more questions out of 50 on each test after seeing the experimental pictures provided by Fox. The average gain is stated as 36%.

In itself this is a remarkable recommendation for the visualized education thing, but everybody anywhere questioned admits the observation that while education may become standardized to an extent through the picture, the latter will never wholly replace the human instructor. Matter of fact, both will be needed to make the one thing successful in operation.

### Silent Film Gain 19%

It is given that only one other test made is comparable to the present one. This effort used silent film while the one recently held with the aid of Fox Film had sound pictures. The test formerly referred to was made by Dr. David C. Knowlton in 1928. His experiment showed an average gain of 19%.

These figures therefore indicate the superiority of talker and sound pictures over silent so far as reaction goes on the mind by almost 2 to 1.

The tests were held at the invitation of President Hoover. The Commissioners of D. of C. and the Governors of all States except Washington, selected a boy and girl of the eighth grade ranking and a school official to participate in the tests. The school officials supervised.

A prelim mental test was given and the tests ran over three days, and then a further test to show how much they gained. Subjects covered were "Volcanos, Glaciers, Rivers, Toads, Monarch Butterflies.

The pictures were made by Dr. W. W. Atwood president of Clark University, Worcester, and Dr. Clyde Fisher of the American Museum of Natural History, through Fox Film.

The tests were judged by an impartial committee of experts, who found that the girls of "most intelligence" rated higher than the boys of "most intelligence" collectively.

### Gary Cooper in "Glass Key"

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Gary Cooper is coming west to play the lead in "The Glass Key," after finishing at Par's on Long Island. Paramount producing.


I HAVE IT ABSOLUTELY

SEE THE LAST ASSEMBLY OF HUNDREDS OF BLACK FEET INDIANS IN FULL WAR DRESS. SEE THE WORLD'S GREATEST BUCKING HORSES AND RIDERS.

Colossal STATE RIGHT Scoop

ARMED WITH EXCLUSIVE PRIVILEGES, I SENT A FULL SOUND OUTFIT AND ALVIN WYCKOFF, ACE CAMERAMAN, PRESIDENT AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CINEMATOGRAPHERS, AND A CREW OF MEN FROM HOLLYWOOD. AND THEY GOT ACTION AND BEAUTY

GREATEST RODEO IN THE WORLD

PHOTOGRAPHED IN MULTICOLOR & SOUND

ACTION. THRILLS. CANADA FOR THE FIRST TIME IN COLOR. A FEATURE FOR AND WITH HE-MEN.

THE CALGARY STAMPEDE

IN FEATURE LENGTH

Foreign Buyers Cable

WIRE ME NOW to 7000 Romaine St., Hollywood, Cal.—WALLACE MacDONALD

There's no argument on this. The territory is going fast. Wire.

TOOTS NOVELLE PORTRAYING "MICKEY MOUSE"

Featured with Fanchon and Marco's "Mickey Mouse Unit"

NOW AT FOX, BROOKLYN, N. Y.

YOUNG CHINA

This Week (AUGUST 7) PARAMOUNT, New York

DIRECTION BENNY BURKE—RKO WM. MORRIS—INDE

# WHAT THIS FILM BUSINESS NEEDS IS MORE PICTURES LIKE...

*Mae Clarke and Kent Douglass in scene from "Waterloo Bridge."*

*Lew Ayres and Anita Louise in scene from "Heaven on Earth."*

*Paul Lukas, Sidney Fox and Lewis Stone in scene from "Strictly Dishonorable."*

*Rose Hobart and Charles Bickford in scene from "East of Borneo."*

## WATERLOO BRIDGE

★ Robert E. Sherwood's sensational stage play, with Mae Clarke, Kent Douglass, Doris Lloyd, Enid Bennett, Bette Davis and Frederic Kerr. Directed by James Whale, who gave you "Journey's End." ★ ★ ★

## HEAVEN ON EARTH

★ Lew Ayres, Anita Louise, Slim Summerville, Harry Beresford, Charles Grapewin, and others... Directed by Russell Mack, in a greater story than "Seventh Heaven."

## STRICTLY DISHONORABLE

★ Brock Pemberton's sensational production of Preston Sturges' comedy smash which thrilled New York for two years, now presented by Carl Laemmle with Paul Lukas (courtesy of Paramount Pictures) Sidney Fox, Lewis Stone, George Meeker, William Ricciardi, Sidney Toler. Directed by John Stahl. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

## FRANKENSTEIN

★ The story that has thrilled the world for years... surpassing even "Dracula." Adapted by John L. Balderston, from the play by Peggy Webling. Starring Colin Clive. Directed by James Whale. ★ ★ ★ ★

## EAST OF BORNEO

★ Unparalleled drama of thrilling eye-to-eye experiences in terrible tropic jungles. Starring Rose Hobart, Charles Bickford, Lupita Tovar. Directed by George Melford. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

## HOMICIDE SQUAD

★ Thrilling as the sound of a police siren... the untold story of the heroes of the law... for the first time in motion pictures! With Leo Carillo, Mary Brian, Noah Beery, Russell Gleason, J. Carrol Naish, George Brent. Directed by George Melford. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

## THE SPIRIT OF NOTRE DAME

★ Dedicated to the incomparable Knute Rockne. Starring Lew Ayres with John Mack Brown, Jim Thorpe, J. Farrell McDonald and the famous "Four Horsemen"—Elmer Leyden, Harry Stuhldreher, Don Miller, Jim Crowley, also Frank Carideo, Adam Walsh, "Moon" Mullins and other famous football players. By special arrangement with Christy Walsh. Directed by Russell Mack. ★

**and**

# UNIVERSAL

**will give them to you soon!**

# LET'S PLAY POLITICS

**BOSTON**
Best since March! Beats "Trader Horn" and "Free Soul"!

**ROCHESTER**
Tremendous! Doubled "Free Soul". Much bigger than "Reducing"!

**KANSAS CITY**
In terrific heat, bests "Trader Horn," "Free Soul."

**BUFFALO**
New summer record. Beats "Free Soul", "Strangers May Kiss", "Trader Horn", "Secret 6"!

**SYRACUSE**
Biggest opening since Xmas! Imagine!

**NEW YORK**
Held Over 2nd Big week at Capitol

**PITTSBURGH**
Eclipses "Free Soul" and Waring's Pennsylvanians!

**MEMPHIS**
DOUBLED AVERAGE OPENING!

*Marie Dressler and Polly Moran in*

**OMAHA**
Sensational at Paramount. Moves to State, breaking State's strictly first run policy!

**DENVER**
Denver Theatre phenomenal. Publix moves it to Rialto for 2nd week. Same story everywhere. And in mid-summer!

**OKLAHOMA CITY**
Held over 2nd week at Capitol—Remarkable event for this spot!

**HAVE YOU ENTERED THE $100.00 "POLITICS" PRIZE CONTEST?**
Send us your complete campaign. Never such an exploitation picture! Address M-G-M Advt. Dept., 1540 Broadway. Contest closes September 15th. Duplicate prizes in case of a tie.

*A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture*

## 2 PUBLIX-DENT HOUSES BACK TO 1ST OPERATORS

Dallas, Aug. 10.

Publix releasing two of its houses from the Dent acquisition back to original operators.

With plans for entry into local suburban field thwarted by realty complications, Ray Stinnett, vet Texas indie, reopens Gem at Temple, Tex., Sept. 1. House had been dark. Stinnett operated the stand several years ago, while co-owner of the Capitol here, one-time ace indie spot in Texas.

C. J. Musselman, another vet indie, reopens Grand, Corsicana, around Oct. 1.

Both stands to be remodelled. Were taken into the Dent fold before that loop was swallowed by P-P.

## Publix New Texas Houses

Dallas, Aug. 10.

Contract for new $400,000 house at Amarillo, west Texas key, to be let by Publix, on Aug. 12.

Stand of deluxe class, similar to one completed last summer in Abilene, another west Tex. town. Giving Publix substantial foothold in fastest growing section of southwest.

Negotiations at one time indicated a Warner and Hughes-Franklin invasion, into that part for competish, but dropped.

## Egyptian as Excess

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

Grauman's Egyptian in Hollywood is on the unloading list of Fox-West Coast, if they can get somebody to unload it on.

F-WC is trying to interest the RKO people to make it a Hollywood vaude stand in view of local downtown conditions.

EDDIE PEABODY
NOW PLAYING
PLAZA THEATRE
London, England

GARY COOPER
Paramount Pictures

*Foremost Film Writers and Dialogicians*

Still Writing Together
GROVER JONES
*and*
WILLIAM SLAVENS McNUTT
FOR PARAMOUNT

Waldemar Young
PARAMOUNT

RALPH SPENCE
R-K-O

FANCHON & MARCO Presents
ZELDA SANTLEY
Headlining "VACATION DAYS" Idea
Personal Direction HARRY FENTELL

## EMPLOYES AS ACTORS

### 2 Instances in Staff of Minneapolis Theatre

Minneapolis, Aug. 10.

Ralph Ertedee, Minnesota theatre usher, doubles as a tap dancer at the show house, being used occasionally in the stage shows. At such times Ertedee carries on his usual usher duties and, when it's time for him to go on with his tap dancing number, makes his stage entrance from the front of the house in his usher's uniform.

Another pair from the theatre's service staff also are making a name for themselves as radio entertainers. They're Charles Green and A. R. Merriman and the small-town election skit they put on for their theatre over radio station WRHM last week to exploit "Politics" scored such a hit arrangements were made to have them stage a humorous skit every Thursday night. The station is giving the theatre 15 minutes on the air gratis each week for the pair.

## NON-UNION BOOTH MEN MAY REOPEN 10 HOUSES

Birmingham, Aug. 10.

It now appears almost a certainty non-union labor will reopen the 10 houses closed July 18 because of labor troubles.

Last week Frank Merritt made a new offer to the operators of $50 weekly with one man in a booth, six-hour shifts for the downtown theatres. In the suburban houses operators would get $40 weekly on the same shift.

The operators had until Aug. 17 to accept the offer. They didn't wait. The ops called a meeting and came out with the announcement that they had refused.

The union contract expires Sept. 1. It is possible that negotiations for a new contract on a new scale will be considered.

## Pete Adams Hurt

Peter Adams, who with his brother, Adam A. Adams, operates the Newark theatre, Newark, N. J., was painfully hurt while driving with his wife and two children in their car near Spring Lake, N. Y.

The entire family went to a hospital at Spring Lake, but Mrs. Adams and two children are not seriously injured.

A collision with another car caused the accident.

## 3 Dark in Galveston Owing to Union Difference

Dallas, Aug. 10.

Determination on part of Publix and A. Martini, indie exhib, to bring Galveston unions to cuts, keeping three houses in that town still dark.

Stands affected are Martini's Dixie and Key, and P-P's Tremont.

At Waco, J. A. Lemke reopened three houses, following understanding with booth men. Lemke, more or less, dittoed the Galveston stunt. Got more than 250 applications from non-union operators, which prompted unions to talk biz.

## Fights with Pictures

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

To promote business at the Fox-West Coast house at Marshall, Mo., Manager J. D. Chaffin staged 25 rounds of boxing and a six-reel picture at 50 cents and a dollar ringside.

Fighters were all amateur and the picture was "The Reckless Hour."

## SKOURAS SUIT POSTPONED

St. Louis, Aug. 10.

The suit for receivership brought by minority stockholders against Skouras Brothers Enterprises, Inc., is off until some time this fall by agreement of both parties.

Contract closed by the Missouri and Ambassador with Paramount, permitting continuance of double features at the former, is quite a surprise to local theatre men.

## Jones Reopening Woods With Darrow Picture

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Woods, loop picture spot, will be reopened by Johnny Jones Aug. 26, with the Darrow indie film, "Mysteries of Life."

House will stick to straight films.

## For Allied Only

Des Moines, Aug. 10.

Lester F. Martin of Nevada has sold his abstract and loan business to devote his entire time to Allied Theatre owners of Iowa and Nebraska.

His offices will be in Nevada.

## Rushing W. B's L. A.

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

Opening of the new Warner house on Wilshire and Western, touted as the last word, etc., is being rushed for completion before Oct. 1, but doesn't look like it can be much before that. When Jack L. Warner returns around Sept. 15 he will determine the new policy, with little likelihood for presentations, as he is basically opposed to stage shows.

Probably will be day-and-date with the Warner's, Hollywood, leaving the Downtown for second runs similar to the new Warner's Beverly.

## 2 STAGE ACTS AND 25c SCALE GOES TO 40c

Kansas City, Aug. 10.

A change of policy has been made in the Publix-Dubinsky Brothers "A" houses in Joplin and Springfield. Both theatres are playing two stage acts with first-run picture. Introduction of the acts compelled the installation of a six-piece orchestra in each house.

Top prices have been tilted from 25 to 40c. The opposition Fox-Midland houses are still 25c.

It is understood that the change is an experiment, and that if it clicks acts will go into some of the other Publix-Dubinsky houses.

VICARIOUS

DEFINITION: made or performed by substitution

'Twas a queer brainstorm that struck the movies with the advent of the talkies, the idea that a world full of people would be content with purely vicarious amusement—pictures of other folks doing things—just that and nothing more.

Flesh-and-blood entertainment is always participated in by the audience, which can and does make its reactions felt by the performer, and therefore is not wholly vicarious.

The public does not like an exclusively mechanical program.

Millions are clamoring for restoration of Living Music in the theatre.

They have registered their wishes in every possible way.

To continue denying them their desire, may destroy their interest in the theatre.

THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS
JOSEPH N. WEBER, President
1440 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

# RKO Going to 5-Act Units This Fall; Radio's Broadcasting Interference

Main item of the three-day RKO divisional directors' meeting in New York last week was the asking for five instead of four-act units. The request will be granted some time this fall.

Divisional men were told to hold a session by themselves at which they were to decide upon questions to be put to the executives. Among the suggestions made at the following general meeting by the divisional reps were that the Radio studio submit three titles on each picture to the theatre men (denied); that the real estate department be divorced from the theatre operating department (granted), and that the circuit stop advertising its national broadcast hour where it becomes opposition to the theatres (granted).

In regard to the broadcast hour, exploitation for the weekly ether program was felt to be having an effect on mid-west and western houses where the actual time of the broadcast, originating in the east, coincided with the early evening theatre period in those territories.

## NEW ACTS

"India Fantasies" (6), with William Lehar Brach.

Lannon and Nattaro, dancers.

Jean Joyson and Joe Young.

## Mason City House Jumps To Full Week Vaude

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Iowa is getting excited about vaude, following the success of the stage policy on its return to the Cecil, Mason City, Ia., after several years absence. Starting with week-end vaude a fortnight ago the house now increases to a full week stand on a split.

Nan Elliott is booking this spot out of the local William Morris office, and is at present negotiating with several other former vaude theatres in the midwest which are exhibiting a genuine interest in variety.

## Sacramento Fills RKO's Lone Coast Layoff Spot

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

RKO's four-act units from the east go into the Plaza theatre, Sacramento, for last halves starting Sept. 5. Acts will play there following Portland.

Until Sacramento was added the week between Portland and San Francisco was a complete layoff. Units have another seven-day layoff three weeks later between Los Angeles and Salt Lake City, but this is usually taken up by the State, Long Beach, booked out of RKO's Los Angeles office.

## Service

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

Femme operator of a beach cinema somewhat remote from L. A., is so happy to get a draw act for an appearance at her house, she offers to split the gross.

Further, she's willing to furnish gin and s. a. after the show.

## F & M MAY START OWN BREAK-INS FOR ACTS

Fanchon & Marco feels the idea of a few break-in weeks around New York is too good to drop. According to Doc Howe, the F&M booker, his office is going to take the matter up either this or next week.

Howe says the need for setting aside a few theatres for this purpose will bring good returns in future talent. The question of pay for the acts while breaking in he believes is the least of the troubles to overcome.

The F&M people were solicited a few weeks ago regarding a community break-in batch of theatres contributed by all the major circuits. That was the last they heard of that.

### Vaude in Union Hill

Twin theatres of RKO at Union City, N. J., will reopen Saturday (29).

Capitol play vaudefilm and State straight pictures only.

## *Hollywood*

(Continued from page 6)

resign to go with another circuit when he returns from his vacation in Canada.

### Still Todd-Lloyd

Alison Lloyd finished work on United Artists' "Corsair" last week and returned to Roach, where she's billed as Thelma Todd, to work on "War Mammas," new Pitts-Todd short. Studios can't decide on one name for the girl yet.

### 60-Day Scare

Sixty-day clearance clause, which keeps features inactive for two months after they have played the Carthay Circle here, is scaring off potential bookings for the house. Exchanges not hot over tying up their product that long before hitting the nabes. "Smiling Lieutenant" in its fourth week and being held over for an additional fortnight due to product shortage.

### Hopper for Mason

Current negotiations for local dating of DeWolf Hopper's Gilbert & Sullivan operettas concern the Mason, Erlanger house downtown. Richard Travers is handling the Hopper troupe, which recently played the Bay Cities.

### Fox Recruits

Two of Winnie Sheehan's eastern recruits who arrived for Fox last week are Howard Emmett Rogers, playwright, and Lawrence O'Sullivan, actor.

Rogers has been out here before.

### Famous' First

Famous Attractions, indie outfit headed by J. G. Bachman and Morris Schlank, start at Tiffany with "Penthouse Murder," from Samuel Spewack's novel, "Murder in a Gilded Cage."

## RKO Units Out of St. Louis and Akron, But Add 3 Towns

Aug. 22 will be the last week for RKO units in St. Louis and Akron. Beginning Aug. 29 these two theatres go over to the Bill Howard books and Akron will split with Youngstown. Akron will play four acts each half and Youngstown five.

Shift from units in St. Louis is to give that theatre heavier shows. St. Louis will probably play five acts with the weekly nut running $700 to $800 higher than the intacts.

Oklahoma City will open on the intact (unit) vaude route Sept. 25, the Plaza theatre, Sacramento, Cal., also goes intact Sept. 4 and the Palace, Columbus, will be added to the route Sept. 22.

Switching of Akron makes a week layoff between Cleveland and Toledo. Some talk by RKO of putting Milwaukee on the route, and Dayton also may be included.

## Fisher's 5 WB Houses

Vaude will be booked in four Warner houses in Connecticut by Arthur Fisher about Aug. 20.

The theatres are the Capital, Ansonia; Strand, New Britain; Alhambra, Torrington, and the Capital, Waterbury.

Five acts on a split week basis will be booked by Fisher.


KATE SMITH

SONGBIRD OF THE SOUTH

Now—RKO PALACE, New York—Now

ALSO

BROADCASTING NIGHTLY

VIA

COLUMBIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM

A NEW ACT TO LOOK OVER

Opening August 22nd, RKO HIPPODROME, New York

FRANK MOLINO & CO.

With ALFRED MOLINO and HARRIET POWELL

Just Finished a Series of Shorts for Educational Pictures

*Our Thanks to*

ROSCOE FATTY ARBUCKLE, ABE SUGARMAN, FANCHON & MARCO, GAE FOSTER and SAM ROBERTS

*Representatives BLONDELL & MACK and AL GROSSMAN*

MARY AND BOBBY

NOW in 4th WEEK at RKO PALACE, New York—AND STAYING INDEFINITELY

ROBERT GARLAND SAID:

"THAT BOY BOBBY IS A JOLLY DANCER. HE SHOULD PRAY EACH NIGHT THAT SOMETHING HAPPENS TO MR. HAL LE ROY. NOTHING SERIOUS, OF COURSE; A MERE BROKEN ANKLE WOULD DO."

"BEN WASHER SAID:

"THERE ARE OTHER HIGH SPOTS, WHICH INCLUDE THE FURIOUS DANCING OF THE MARY AND BOBBY WHO ARE A PART OF LEW POLLACK'S OFFERING."

THANKS TO BILLY PIERCE

MAX and HIS GANG

Featured in F&M "About Town" Idea

FOX THEATRE, SAN FRANCISCO, NOW

THANKS TO FANCHON & MARCO and GAE FOSTER

Direction HERMAN L. CITRON FOR F&M—JACK CURTIS FOR RKO

# The Secret of Speakeasies

By Joe Laurie, Jr.

Akron, Aug. 1.

Hello Charlie;—

The week at the 105th St. Cleveland was Oke. Weather hot but it has a cooling system. Fine on the stage but when you hit the dressin rooms, just hot. Someday a guy is gonna have a cooling system that goes all over the place. Knox Strachan, the manager, is a nice guy. Charlie Winston from Poston, is division manager. Buck Maloney, manager at Loew's in Kansas City, is here for Loew as a division manager too....They call 'em division managers because they divide up all the work.

Cleveland stays about the same. Good town and lots doing if you meet the right people. Nearly every hat shop sells beer or hard stuff.

Say do you remember me writin to you that everything with the unit was going along alright? Well, I'll take it back, 'cause here's what's happening....Ernie in my act and the single guy's wife, the straight man and his wife from the comedy act are playin bridge....They started off for fun, and we didn't even know a game was going on; then last week they made it for a couple of bucks for the biggest score on the week, Well Charlie, if you ever heard that gang argue and yell and fuss with each other you'd think they were playin for a route. You know the straight man's wife is a Scientist but her partner bid somethin or other that he shouldn't and believe me Charlie that dame forgot all about her Science. I expect they will knife each other in a few weeks if they keep it up. I've seen units break up on less than that.

### All Alone

I'm glad I'm stickin to myself. Now that the single guys wife is playin bridge it gives him a chance to sneak out with me for a little drink, 'cause when she's playin she don't care what he does. He hasn't played any golf as yet. His act is going a little better this week but still not as good as mine.

The dame in the last act isn't such a bad scout when you know her. She's talkin about gettin an apartment for the rest of the trip, only she don't like to cook just for herself so she thought maybe as long as I told her I liked good home cooking on account of my trick stomach, we could both chip in and she would be glad to do the cookin for both of us, it would be cheaper than a restaurant and much better for my stomach and hers too.

I didn't yes her right away, I told her I'd think it over. You know I'm afraid to start that stuff....She's not a bad kid but I'm not stuck on her and you don't know where good cookin will lead you to.

And I wanna save dough on this trip. I was plannin on gettin a money order last week to stick away in the grouch bag, when they took out the railroad fares that they advanced for the act; I forgot all about it, and so it left me short, but once the railroad fares are paid up I'll be on velvet.

We don't know if we're gonna work Milwaukee as yet. Some acts do and some acts don't. We ain't heard about Winnipeg opening either. That makes it a two week lay off after Minneapolis before we hit Vancouver. Bergman the fellow with the dogs is worried sick about the lay off. He's a nice old guy but is always cryin the blues. He promised me a pup if he gets one on the road.

### Real Alibi

You know, Charlie, a dog is a great pal, and they help you save dough too 'cause you always got an excuse for not stoppin at a good hotel, it let's you off easy with the other actors, you just say they won't let you in with the dog, and grab a furnished room. And you gotta take care of a dog so it keeps you from stayin out all night and spending money, and so I'm praying the guy gets a pup soon. It will keep my mind occupied and maybe I can break him in to do some tricks in the act.

I met Archie Bell. He's the big critic in Cleveland and an educated guy, knows plenty about show business and smokes a pipe. I'm gonna get a pipe next week. And another critic, Ward Marsh, knows what it's all about too. I'm gettin in with a lot of newspaper guys. That's why I like speakeases. You always meet good people.

Best to you and the Mrs. sez

Your pal,

*Bob.*

## Pagliacci

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

A layoff hoofer, wearing his last stage suit, was in local breadline. He was the fashion plate of the queue.

A copper came up and dragged him out before he had a chance to get anything between his teeth.

"This is no place for clowning," growled the cop as he shagged the hoofer.

# RADIO'S FLOPS CAN'T STAND REPEATS

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Personal appearances for radio performers are admitted locally to be washed up following an epidemic of them last season. Theatres have decided that the radio in-person item no longer means anything at the box office. Prices for the in-person appearances have been slashed in half, due to the drop off in demand, but even the short coin is no inducement to the managers.

Radio performers who make good on their initial appearances are useless for second attempts as a rule. Their following is strictly fan novelty couriosity, with the public fed up after getting one peek.

### Stiff Personalities

Most of the radio performers died because of their lack of stage personality, the great handicap against continued public showings. Admitted now that the only radio performers that have a chance for sustained stage appearances are those who came originally from behind the footlights.

# F&M AUDITIONS ON AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER

Fanchon & Marco auditions, closed for the summer, will restart first week in September.

Auditions held by the booking department of F&M in New York are to locate new talent. Girls for the chorus are also looked over at same time.

Due to the increase in the F&M bookings, the office has been swamped with requests the past few weeks regarding the continuance of the auditions. Doc Howe says the percentage of standard acts looking for a chance to show for F&M has also increased greatly.

## Mountford's Play

Harry Mountford has written a mystery meller called "The Death Ray." It is among the first of a group of plays to be produced by James W. Elliott.

Charles W. Aldrich, formerly prominent with Mountford in the White Rats, has worked with the latter on the play, supplying business and gadgets.

Lynne Overman will be starred.

## FRED VARIN RESIGNS

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Fred Varin, club booker here with RKO, has resigned effective Sept. 1.

Varin has been in town for more than a year, having been brought on from Coast when Ben Piazza was in charge locally. May return to Los Angeles.

## Doc Howe's Trip

Doc Howe, chief booker for Fanchon & Marco, now headquartering in the east, has left New York for a jump around F. & M.'s substations like St. Louis, Milwaukee, etc.

Looks like he'll be gone two weeks and then come back to meet M. Marco who is expected east around that time.

# J. NOVELLO-JUNE WORTH ARRESTED IN COLUMBUS

Columbus, Aug. 10.

Joe Novello, 32, featured with his brother in the Loew unit current at the Ohio theatre, and June Worth, 16, in the same show, were arrested on the main stem early this morning when the actress almost ran down two policemen with her auto. Both were charged with being intoxicated by police who stated that the machine continued down the street. A police car caught them more than a mile away.

Novello and Miss Worth were both locked up over night and up to noon today (Monday) were still in their cells. Police had decided to press charges of juvenile delinquency against the girl and to charge the actor with contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Effect of the arrests on the show at the Ohio is as yet unknown. Management maintaining silence on any action.

## LIFESAVER AT 7

### Bobby Jackson Saves His Sister, Who Fell in the Water

Freeport, L. I., Aug. 10.

Bobby Jackson, sturdy and just seven and a half years old, son of Willie Jackson the agent, is this town's juvenile hero. Because of the kid's life-saving proclivities, his Dad is so proud of him that he'd go for a motorboat, or something.

Young Jackson has a kid sister, who can't swim, and who fell into the sea from the dock near the Casino. Bobby, though no champion in the water, dived in after Edie, and rescued her. Now Edith must paddle her feet in the bathtub.

## Saranac Addresses

### N. V. A. Sanatorium

Saranac, N. Y., Aug. 8.

Thomas Abbott
Helen Antalek
Dan Astella
Fred Bachman
Allie Bagley
Happy Benway
Fred Buck
James Cannon
Ethel Clouds
Edith Cohen
May DeLany
Frisco DeVere
Xela Edwards
Harry English
Andreas Erving
Ingred Fisher
Kitty Flynn
Bert Ford
Doris Giltrap
Chris. Hagedorn
Dorathy Harvard
George Harmon
Bobby Hatz
William Holly
Ida Howard
Millie Jasper
Val. Kincaid
Dick Kuni
Vernon Lawrence
Lilly Leonora
Jack Lewis
Chas. Libecap.
John Louden
Mike McMamee
Lawrence McCarthy
William Meyers
Phyllis Milford
Alma Montague
Dick Moore
Harry Namba
George Neville
Helen O'Reilly
Gladys Palmer
Angela Papulis
Annamae Powers
Bessie Purdy
Nellie Queally
C. J. Quinn
Ford Raymond
Constance Reeves
Fred Rith
Ben Schaffer
Louis Sonsonkin
Toni Temple
Catherine Vogelle
Eddie Voss

Arthur Alverst, 15 River street.
Harry Barrett, 302 Broadway.
Charles Barrett, 302 Broadway.
Chas. Bordley, 86 Park ave.
Walter Dayley, 10 Baker street.
Eddy Diamond, 20 River street.
Marion Greene, 58 Riverside drive.
James Haegney, 6 Military road.
Dave (DDH) Hall, 23½ Franklin ave.
Mandy Kay, Clancy Cottage.
Russ Kelly, 19 Broadway.
William Meyers, Clancy Cottage.
Joe Reilly, 45 Franklin street.
Jack Nicoll, Clancy Cottage.
Andrew Molony, 19 Broadway.

## DUFFY CANCELLED

Jimmy Duffy's attempt to stage a vaude comeback ended last week during his date at the Jefferson, New York, when he missed two shows. Act was cancelled.

Duffy was working with Patsy Callahan.

### Cutting in St. Louis

St. Louis, Aug. 10.

In order to meet the scale current at the Fox, with Fanchon & Marco units, RKO is planning to bring its St. Louis, with vaude and pictures, down to 25, 35 and 50.

Price changes will become effective the end of the month according to local information.

# Salary Cutting, Chiseling, Taking And Apples as Always by Indies

## Threat Letter

The intimidation gang thing has started to seep into vaudeville booking. An epistle inferring bodily harm to an RKO booker unless a certain act was placed was received last week. The act, of course, was named with the admonition to keep the letter confidential.

Missive was typewritten, ungrammatical, and turned into the proper channels.

Salary cutting and chiseling of acts among the indie vaude bookers is hitting high peak right now. The sharp practices are being pushed over with a vim due to anticipation on the indie booker's part of a deluge of vaude this fall.

All sorts of penny figures are being offered standard acts, while the indies figure on cashing in while the cashing is good. Jumps out of New York calling for $5 each way per person are being offered for apples. The figures are bottom with the acts taking the slaps because there is nothing else in sight for many of them.

The indies cry that summer business is bad and the acts must cut. Many standard turns wishing to break in now are dumbfounded at the offers. Some of the indies have the houses on a percentage arrangement with no booking fees. They make plenty if the show overhead is cut. On top of this they take from the acts besides.

### Flat Commish

Five per cent commission is almost unheard of in the indie field any longer. If an agent submits the act he usually takes a flat sum for his end, not deigning to accept odd nickles. If the acts book direct they get taken all around in most cases.

According to Fally Marcus, who is the best known and one of the few up-and-up bookers to ever enter the indie vaude field, the methods of some indie bookers have retarded the return of vaude in many theatres that otherwise would be now playing it. The present high pressure method in salary cutting and chiseling is the worse thing that could happen to vaude right now in the smaller spots.

# $120,000 GROSS FOR 4 WEEKS AT PALACE

The Palace won't be much short of $120,000 on its month's run of the current straight vaude bill headed by Holtz, Gaxton, Roberti, and Kate Smith. Lineup is now in its fourth week and stands a good chance of nabbing $30,000 if it gets a weather break.

Saturday (8) ran slightly ahead of the third week's start, but a humid Sunday dropped behind the preceding Sabbath.

Figures on the house for this bill so far have been $27,400, $29,700, $31,800 with $30,000 the current expectation. Lineup will also remain a fifth week.

E. G. Robinson, Jack Benny and Harriet Hoctor are due at the house the week of Aug. 29, Benny going in at $2,000 for two weeks or longer, depending on the road start of "Vanities" in Chicago.

### Holtz Up to $6,000

Lou Holtz has sent his salary at the Palace from $4,200 up to $6,000 a week. At that price he is apt to remain at the Palace as long as the demand calls for him. Holtz meanwhile will postpone the reopening of his show a couple of weeks.

Phil Baker and Abe Lyman's band are also reported assembled as part of another prospective holdover bill. Execs are looking for a femme name on this lineup.

# CARTER FRAMING MAGIC SHOW FOR ORIENT-INDIA

San Francisco, Aug. 10.

Charles Carter (Carter the Great) is framing a magic show here for the Orient and India. Carter recently returned from Europe where he has been playing for three years.

Carter closed in Moscow last April, after jumping there from Paris, when the Soviet government demanded 40% of his gross as state tax.

## KALCHEIM RESIGNS

### Publix Stage Booker Returning to Morris Agency

Nat Kalcheim has resigned from Publix as that circuit's general stage booking representative. He handled special attractions, etc. Kalcheim returns to the William Morris agency from which office he left to join the theatre chain.

Cause of the resignation is believed to have been difference of opinion over bookings.

Kalcheim becomes assistant to Abe Lastfogel, business manager for Morris.

## BOB BAKER'S BREAKDOWN

Bob Baker, indie vaude agent, suffered a nervous breakdown last week and was removed to the hospital.

He was slightly improved over the weekend.

### Nixon Drops Bits

New York indie vaude placers groaned again last week when Philly's Nixon theatre, playing five acts, closed.

Vaude may be resumed after Labor Day.

# General Auction By All Transfer Firms on Baggage

Vaude transfer companies are figuring on holding a general auction of trunks and crates left by actors who have never paid their bills or called to make a claim.

It is estimated by the various transfer people that there are hundreds of trunks and crates holding costumes, scenery and props in storage. According to law they have the right to hold an auction, the same as hotels.

# Sunshine Sammy Up On Charge by Girl

Sunshine Sammy (Ernest Morrison) was held under $2,500 bail by Magistrate Burke in Washington Heights court, New York, on a charge preferred by Blanche Van Putten, 17, Lafayette theatre chorus girl. Miss Putten told the court that as the result of several attacks by Morrison she was in a serious condition.

Boy, now 18, reached screen popularity when he was with Roach's "Our Gang" kids. Since leaving pictures he has been playing vaude dates.

# Moss' St. Vaude

B. S. Moss is at work again upon a proposed straight vaude policy for his Broadway theatre on Broadway. Moss's idea is to hold over a vaude bill for eight weeks as a minimum, fashioning the scheme on the present hold over vaude show at the Palace.

Moss thinks he can get underway with the straight vaude twice daily around Oct. 1. He may call his show a music hall entertainment.

## MARCO EAST AGAIN

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

Mike Marco goes east the end of this month for an o. o. of the new F&M-Publix hookup.

Leon Leonidoff, Roxy stage producer, will remain here to stage F&M units for the next six months. His first, "Rhymes in Rhythm," opens this week at Loew's State.

## PHOTOGS AGREE ON BUREAU'S DEMANDS

Question of photographers and the RKO has been finally straightened out to the extent that all photo men doing theatrical work are now working in accord with the demands of RKO on act's pictures.

When the complete change in lobby photos was instituted by the RKO photo bureau, there was much confusion as acts had to rely for posing on E. M. Orowitz of the department, to have photos accepted. Orowitz could not leave the RKO office and pose acts in the side streets off Broadway.

He was confined to giving his efforts nearby, which was the Mitchell studio, located on the same floor with his office.

A meeting was called by Orowitz of all the photographers, at which time Orowitz went over hundreds of new photos and ideas and showed them what RKO wanted. This meeting was held several weeks ago. New lighting equipment and props were installed by the photographers. They now pose the acts themselves, knowing just what will be accepted and not.

The aim of RKO in making the drastic change from old style poses to something new and modern in act's lobby pictures, is to give the same angle to selling a vaude show in the lobbies as is done by the picture people with their stills. All bookings outside of first showings are held up by the RKO bookers until the photos of the acts are found okay and in sufficient quantity.

## LOEW-CLEVELAND NOW A SEPARATE DIVISION

Cleveland, Aug. 10.

Geographic realignment of Loew theatre divisions has resulted in the Cleveland houses becoming a separate and distinct division. E. A. Schiller, Loew theatre operator, is here on an inspection tour.

"Effective Sept. 1," said Schiller, "the 11 local Loew theatres will comprise a divisional unit and the duties of W. A. Finney, manager of the mid-western division, of which Cleveland was a part, have been increased. His headquarters will be moved to Columbus, O. Fred Desberg will remain here in charge and will also have additional duties.

"Operation of the Cleveland division will be in charge of H. M. Addison, who has been supervisor of our theatres in Pittsburgh. H. H. Maloney, who was city supervisor here, will be promoted to the management of one of the larger eastern theatres."

### Hildebrand's Commercial

Fred Hildebrand goes with Dutch Master cigar people for Sunday night programs over WABC and chain. The contract calls for 30 weeks.

The deal was handled by Leo Edwards.

## Burl-Drama

(Continued from page 30)

from piano and drums in the pit. Stage is full-lighted always, there being no spot. No strip or coooch stuff, but with some of the comedy talk stuff raw on the allusion.

In the entire show, however, the idea drifts more and more to vaude notions, in the routining and manner of the comedy cross-fire. Vaude has been squawking about the need for training grounds. Here's one.

At the National the fee is 10 cents as compared with the 15c tip at the U. S. Yet the National manages to put on a better show. Besides the long burlesque-vaude revue, there's a regular stage band, in addition to a dramatic show by a separate company.

Four men in the band, which just about fills the stage, leaving barely room enough for the five gals in the chorus. There seems to be a great spirit of co-operation and harmony at the National. Performers for the most part seem to be regulars, with previous experience. This is particularly true of the dramatic troupe.

### Drama From Memory

Dramatic show runs about 35 minutes on one-act. There is no setting. Bare stage with a table and the piano only. Play is evidently from memory. Simple and naive stuff, but plenty oke for this audience. Present show is labelled, "Wife in Name Only," drama with a happy ending. Next week play announced is the "Escaped Convict."

Burlesque half of the entertainment is held down to a great extent by the stage band, who besides supplying the music, double in everything else, taking roles as m. c.'s, comics, etc. Band is an earnest aggregation, and have aspirations for the better things, even attempting such operatics as "Miserere" and the Anvil Chorus from "Il Trovatore." Announced as opera, and the big point is that the heavy music went better with the crowd than the boop-a-doop.

National's performance has the grace of liveliness, and plenty of easy comedy. Most of the stuff is strictly clean, and the few attempts at blue material are handled so timidly that the boys out front are ashamed to laugh. Best of the burleycue is its hokey comedy. Simple material, going far back into show business for its material, even to the actual use of the inflated bladder. An illuminating flash on the entire business here is revealed by the fact that the biggest laughs came when one comic socked another comic with the bladder. And when the string broke, and the bladder drifted to the floor, the boys out front gave 'em the real belly guffaws.

Maybe vaudeville had been getting too smart for a large portion of the audience?

## Burlesk Comics Turning To Vaude—6 So Far

Former burlesque comics, with no attractive offers from the new Columbia circuit, are turning to vaude.

List includes Frank Silk, Charles (Tramp) McNally, Abe Reynolds, Billy Arlington, Joe Freed and Eddie Dale.

Silk and Arlington headed Mutual operas last season.

## American, Chi, Back

Chicago, Aug. 10.

The American, westside, is slated to return to vaude Sept. 1, to be booked by Dick Hoffman out of the local RKO office. It's to have short shows for short coin, playing three splits a week. House figures on a trio of acts weekdays and five on Sunday.

Theatre was formerly the showing spot for Western Vaudeville.

## Prinz Will Stage for Mastbaum in Philly

Le Roy Prinz will stage all shows for the Mastbaum, Philadelphia, when the Warner booking office commences handling that theatre Sept. 4.

Jerry Mayhall and Bob Alden, current stagers for the Stanley, Pittsburgh, will continue under the Warner banner when that theatre also gets WB acts. The Stanley, Jersey City, will have its shows staged under the supervision of Larry Cannelly, but the Warner office will shortly place a producer at the theatre to work under Connelly.

All shows will be staged individually and, with rare exceptions, will not be intacts.

## ILL AND INJURED

Ned Wayburn is in the Claremont, N. H., hospital to undergo a two-stage operation. Frst operation was performed Aug. 3. Second will take place in about 10 days.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# News From the Dailies

**This department contains rewritten theatrical news items as published during the week in the daily papers of New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Hollywood and London. Variety takes no credit for these news items; each has been rewritten from a daily paper.**

## NEW YORK

Bandits raided Pasquale Delguidice's cafe in the Village Monday night, shot the owner and collected about $1,000 from the patrons.

Jeanette Jones Journee, dancer, committed suicide by gas Monday (3), depressed over financial worries and writing that she had "been bad luck" to her husband. Before turning on the gas she put two love birds and a marmoset in another room.

Greta Gibson in Mt. Sinai hospital for an operation.

McKinley Reeves and Mrs. Junita Hall, of "Green Pastures," fined $3 and $1 respectively for enjoying a Harlem birthday party too audibly last Monday (13).

"Wine Bricks," the latest excitement. If you do what the label tells you not to do, you get a gallon out of each brick. Said to beat dry laws because offered for "flavoring" and not for booze. Raided last Wed.

Lambs hold their wash at the Percy Williams Home, East Islip, Aug. 30. Tickets cut from $5 to $3.50 to meet the times.

Belmont, N. C., theatres closed to prevent spread of meningitis.

Ziegfeld announces school to train girls for his shows.

Pershing theatre, Amsterdam avenue, sold to Louis I. Harris.

"Broadcaster," radio travesty, going into rehearsal. Book by Roland Trevor and music by Lou Daly. Major J. Andrew White will back show, to be staged by E. C. Lilley with dances by John Lonergan.

Ned Wayburn in a hospital near Claremont, N. H. Not thought to be serious.

E. E. Royce back from Hollywood to stage a show for Ziegfeld.

Le Roy Prinz assigned to Warner stage shows at Mastbaum, Phila.

Maj. Edward Bowes joins hole in one club.

Earl Carroll suing N. Y. Edison Co. to force it to supply direct instead of alternating current to his new house. Company policy to supply only a. c. to new buildings. Ordered to show cause.

CBS to enter theatricals. Will star Miller and Lyles in "Lazy Rhythm," all colored revue. Team broadcasting for Col.

Mary Ellis and Basil Sidney to star in "Cherries are Ripe," due here in Oct.

Walter Hampden and Fay Bainter to road tour in "Armirable Crichton."

Arthur Hammerstein in Mt. Sinai hospital.

Radio transmission by Neon light successful in a test across the Hudson at New York last Wednesday. Variable light ray carried sound a distance of 3,000 feet.

Otto Kruger, of "Private Lives," taking a vacation while Donald Brian pinch hits. To be gone two weeks.

David Belasco's daughter (Mrs. Morris Gest), presented to New York Public Library the complete scrap-book collection of her father. Forms a complete record of his career.

Laurette Taylor buys site for summer home in Old Lyme, Ct.

Hebrew Actors' Union and Yiddish Theatrical Alliance dine Molly Picon at Hotel Pennsylvania Wednesday (12). She will sail Friday on her world tour.

Work has been begun on the Annie Russell theatre, donated to Rollins College, Winter Park, Fla., by Mrs. Edward W. Bok. Former stage star will be director.

Citizens of Malvern, Pa., riled when clergyman forces police to close wheels and stores at carney sponsored by local fire dept. Seek to ride him on a rail, but police save him.

CBS announces abolishment of commercial religious broadcasts Sept. 13, and substitution of three broadcasts for Catholic, Protestant and Jewish faiths under its own auspices.

Mrs. Dorothy Ruby, divorced wife of songwriter, named in divorce suit of Mrs. Irma Keit, suing Lewis S. Keit, manufacturing jeweler. Claimed Mrs. Ruby posed as her friend, but had eyes only for the hubby, said Mrs. Keit.

James P. Dix, cashier in Pavilion Royal on Merrick Road, L. I., and Irene Brown, entertainer at same place, killed when their car crashed through a gate and into a L. I. train. Dix's body was thrown 100 feet, and the woman's almost as far.

Yvonne DuBois, film actress, attacked in her apartment and stabbed with shears by burglars. Now in Bellevue, where her condition is said to be critical.

Harry G. Sommers, for more than 30 years with Erlanger, is out as manager of Avon theatre, which goes to Brock Pemberton. Sommers will take a vacation before resuming activities.

Census officials credit radio with improving standards of literacy, as shown by enumeration. Speech better, too.

Warner theatre, Torrington, Conn., to be opened Aug. 19. Gov. Cross will speak as well as mayor.

Marian Marsh in town for a week. Her first visit.

Atlantic City police looking for Lewis ("Kid") Curry, Phila pug, charged with being mixed in a fatal shooting scrap at Assembly hotel.

Vivian Duncan in town with her baby, which was admitted under a Swedish passport. Rosita met her at the pier.

Mrs. Lawrence Tibbett in Reno. That's it.

Justice Reiglemann decides that Mrs. Sally M. Winn did not serve Laverta M. Goudiss, actress and dancer, in her alienation suit, and she must start all over again. This is the case in which Mickey Walker's ex-wife spilled the beans to Mrs. Winn, because Mickey brought Laverta and Winn to his home.

Estate of Mrs. Anna C. Booth, professionally known as Christine Norman, shrinks from $188,280 to $136,047 due to contests by her husband and her mother-in-law, who were not included in bequests. Mrs. Booth, playwright as well as actress, committed suicide at the Hotel Warwick in March of last year.

Six men and ten girls arraigned in Coney Island for giving an indecent performance and paroled for a further hearing Aug. 14. Both were girl shows on Surf avenue: "Broadway Ramblers" and "Dream of Egypt."

Frederick Lonsdale, British playwright, leaving for Hollywood 7, announces that he will quit if not acceptable. Under contract to Metro.

Chester Erskine will make his own adaptation of "I Love an Actress," newly purchased Hungarian drama.

Ziegfeld signs Eddie Cantor, according to Ziegfeld, but he hasn't according to Cantor. Deal may go through, though.

"Lucky Old Bill," by Bruce Bairnsfather, to open in Montreal in Oct. If they like it, it will cross the border. Harry Thompson, original Bill of first play, in cast and collaborator. It's a musical.

Percy Helton and Edna Eustace, of "Shoot the Works," engaged to double hitch. Not a press stunt.

Windsor cafeteria, on the square, held up just before closing Thursday night. Thieves got $600 and three meals.

Red Barn theatre, Locust Valley, L. I., opens again after bounce taken out of checks.

Shuberts announce "Best Wishes," musical, book by Ralph Spence and Timothy Whalan, and score by Harry Tierney. Edward Royce stages.

Jacob Hosbauer, Singer midget, badly hurt at Olean, N. Y. Putting radio aerial on hotel fire escape when he fell two stories. Fractured skull and crushed chest.

Talbot, Inc., announces "Playing the Game," by Walter Newman. Doesn't say when.

Macgowan and Reed announce four plays. First is "Lean Harvest," with Leslie Banks, of the London cast. "The Lady with the Lamp" offers American debut of Edith Evans. "Love Story" is an American play by C. L. Anthony. Will also do "Autumn Crocus" at end of London run.

John Ringling back from Europe.

Mary and Florence Nash back from Europe.

Possibly no Mardi Gras at Coney this year. Concessionaires lack money to stake the committee. Trying to work it out.

Geo. R. Bilson, George Harvey, Walter F. Eberhardt, Marvin Kirsch, Paul Benjamin, Chas. Barrel and Leon J. Bamberger nominating comm. for A. M. P. A. election in Sept.

Waste film in tanks at Emile Snyder, Inc., Newark, exploded Sunday, injuring 3. Believed due to exposure to hot sun. Loss, $50,000.

Elaborate roof garden system being planned atop building of Radio City.

Nancy Welford back from picture dates in London. May go into "Mr. Cinders."

Grant Mills back in "Once in a Lifetime."

NBC buys four stations on northwest coast, Frisco, Seattle, Spokane and Portland.

## LOS ANGELES

Mae Murray withdrew her divorce suit against David M'divani and has been reconciled with him.

Ina Claire has been granted a divorce from John Gilbert on grounds of mental cruelty. Hearing was held in Judge Joseph P. Sproul's private chambers with attorneys and newspapermen present.

Arthur Stebbins and his wife, Belle, are suing Sid Grauman for $135,000 damages alleged to have been incurred in an accident while riding in Grauman's car last January.

Lila Lee and Patsy Ruth Miller left San Francisco for a vacation in Tahiti, where they will join Mr. and Mrs. Gouverneur Morris at their plantation.

Hazel Mills, film actress, is suing Dr. Karl F. Ross for $76,000 damages, charging he was negligent in treating her varicose veins, leaving scars and injuries to her left leg.

J. Stuart Blackton's alleged mismanagement of the children's trust fund left by his wife is being investigated by the superior court. Charged that $15,000 of a $20,000 fund is gone.

Mary Poulson Montana is suing Bull Montana, wrestler and actor, for divorce, charging cruelty. The Bool says: "Me and John Gilbert, we're in the same boat."

Janina Smolinsky, Polish film actress, fighting efforts of immigration inspectors to have her deported. Charge she's overstayed her leave.

Ernestine Schumann-Heink obtained a temporary injunction against execution of a default judgment for $6,688 entered against her by Marguerite Dobson over a stock deal with one of her sons.

An engineer and fireman were killed when the first section of the Argonaut Express, eastbound from Yuma, Ariz., was wrecked due to heavy storms. Four horses, two belonging to Warner Baxter and one each to Edmund Lowe and Fox Films, were killed when the engine, two baggage cars and one coach were derailed. Members of Fox's "Cisco Kid" troupe, bound for Tucson, were on the second section of the train and escaped injury.

Dorothy Jordan was fined $15 in municipal court after pleading guilty to traveling 62 miles an hour.

Alphonse Feeney, alias Jack Wycks Feeney, who says he is a scenarist, was held for San Francisco police on bad check and grand theft charges. Charged with stealing five manuscripts from Mrs. Belle Ranski valued at $5,000.

Jack Dempsey regained possession of the $10,000 auto he had given Estelle Taylor, his estranged wife, for Christmas. He and his brother, Joe Dempsey, and a deputy sheriff seized it at Miss Taylor's home.

Fred Kelsey, film actor, returned to Sandusky, O., his former home.

(Continued on page 63)

# LABOR DAY STARTER FOR COL. 25 SHOWS

With 23 new Columbia shows now officially set and several others readying, it's a near certainty 25 will be ready for opening Labor Day.

Jean Bedini may get a franchise, but reported unlikely Jerome Rosenberg will have a show, although he recently applied for a grant.

Names of Columbia shows and producers follow: Bentley & Michaels "Step Lively Girls," Murray Rosen's "Bohemian Girls," Harry (Hello Jake) Fields' "Sugar Babies," Irving Selig's "Pleasure Seekers," Al Singer's "Frivolities," Sam Raynor's "Broadway Blondes," Cliff Bragdon's "Hi Ho Everybody," Emmett Callahan's "Girls in Blue," Ed Ryan's "Girls From the Follies," Henry P. Dixon's "Big Revue," Lou Reals' "Nite Life in Paris," Joe Catalon's "Flapper Follies," Rube Bernstein's "Hindu Belles," Cliff Williams' "London Gaiety Girls," Joe Levitt's "Giggles," William Randell's "Rumba Rumba Girls," Max Fields' "Kuddling Kuties," Nat Fields' "Pykin' Around," Ben Jaffe's "French Models," Harold Raymond show (unnamed), "Sliding Billy Watson's "Big Fun," Jack Conway's "Liberty Belles" and Moore & Portar's untitled show.

# 25 WHEEL SHOWS OPEN FROM AUG. 31-SEPT. 7

Towns, theatres and opening dates of the 25 shows comprising the complete Columbia Burlesque Wheel are set. The route extends as far west as St. Louis, with Chicago not on it.

First three shows open Aug. 31, with 14 more following the next week. The Garrick, St. Louis, opens Sept. 7.

Nine of the shows will take principals to their opening dates and recruit their choruses in the opening towns. The Columbia heads have decided that they will not furnish any printing for the shows or theatres. This must be bought by each theatre and includes all outdoor paper.

**Opening Dates**

**Aug. 31**

"Step Lively Girls," Republic, N. Y.
"Pleasure Seekers," Apollo, N. Y.
"Bohemians," Howard, Boston.

**Sept. 7**

"Big Fun Show," Apollo, N. Y.
"Playin' Around," Howard, Boston.
"Hindu Belles," Lyric, Dayton.
"French Models," Academy, Pittsburg.
Raynor & Gang, Gayety, Washington.
Lillian Dixon, Gayety, Baltimore.
"Giggles," Trocadero, Philadelphia.
"Facts and Figures," Gayety, Brooklyn.
"Rumba Rumba Girls," Hudson, Union City.
"Nite Life," Orpheum, Paterson.
"HiHo Everybody," Empire, Newark.
"Frivolities," Route No. 1.
"Sugar Babies," Irving Place, N. Y.

**Sept. 14**

"Novelties," Howard, Boston.
"Kuddling Kuties," Gayety, Buffalo.
"Bare Facts," Empire, Toledo.
"Gypsy Rose Lee," Garrick, St. Louis.

**Sept. 21**

"Liberty Bells," Howard, Boston.
"Girls in Blue," Gayety, Buffalo.
"Flapper Follies," Empire, Toledo.
"London Gayety," Garrick, St. Louis.

# Columbia Gets Empress

Empress on the South Side goes to Columbia Wheel.

It will start Sept. 12. Western end of wheel now includes nine weeks, Detroit, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Akron, Toledo, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Milwaukee and Chicago.

## Mack's Tent Tab

Steubenville, O., Aug. 10.

Red Mack, tab stager, has launched a tent theatre here. Tab show with acts.

**Smith Ballew's** orchestra, formerly at the Villa Vallee in New York, at the Piping Rock, Saratoga, for the racing season.

# COLORED T.O.B.A. OF SMALL HOPE NEXT SEASON

Little hope is held out for the resumption of the T. O. B. A. (colored circuit) upon former lines, due to the terrific drop hitting the Negro houses playing vaudfilm. Inability to obtain new attractions weekly has also worked a disadvantage the circuit operators have not yet been able to overcome in the past year or so.

The T. O. B. A. has gone from bad to worse, with some of the houses keeping open only by shifting policies and playing straight pictures.

The T. O. B. A. houses have little to offer traveling outfits, which at one time kept the wheel alive. The few that attempt to weather the circuit have been forced to cancel date after date and stick mainly around the east.

Veteran Negro showmen who have always relied on the T. O. B. A. have one by one shuffled off the producing board. But a few remain who dare take chances, and they refuse to play some of the headache houses that don't draw one-third as they did in other days.

Musical tab producers no longer form traveling troupes, to have them stranded within a few weeks. Without shows the T. O. B. A. operators have been forced to depend on talkers and what scattered vaude acts that are available within easy distance of the theatres.

# HERK STILL LOOKING FOR CHICAGO HOUSE

Chicago, Aug. 10.

All negotiations between I. H. Herk and the Rialto and Academy theatres here are off. If Herk finds a local outlet for his midwest Columbia wheel, it'll have to be some other spot. Rialto and Academy have decided to stick to their semi-stock policy, switching shows between the two houses.

There is a chance that Herk may send his wheel show into the west side Haymarket. State-Congress will also remain in its present stock policy.

## Hirsh-Fox Set

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Two midwest burlesque theatres are readying for another stock session. Harry Hirsh was in town last week gathering an organization for his Gayety in Minneapolis. Opening date will be between Aug. 29 and Sept. 5.

Charles Fox opens with stock at the Gayety, Milwaukee, Aug. 22. Principles lined up are Billy Mack, Joe Yule, Jack Montague, George Kannear and Elvie Herndon.

## NINER HEADING TAB

Rochester, N. Y., Aug. 10.

Hollywood Players have organized here to tour nearby small towns with a tab show under canvas. Eddie Niner, who retired from the stage 10 years ago, is producer, director and featured comedian.

Niner years ago played under Augustin Daly management and later toured in vaude as the male half of Niner and Niner.

### Stock Again at 5th Ave.

Max Rudnick has taken a lease on the 5th Ave. theatre, New York, and will install stock burlesque there around Labor Day.

Rudnick also operates the Eltinge on West 42nd street.

### Co-Op Burlesque in Columbus

Columbus, Aug. 10.

Stock burlesque on a co-op basis, as during past season returns to the Lyceum here August 30. New choristers will be given a chance, but it is understood that the principals will remain as was.

### Buffalo Gayety Reopening

Buffalo, Aug. 10.

Gayety, former Columbia burlesque stand, reported to reopen with burlesque Labor Day under management of Max Michaels.

## CHICAGO

**(F&M Unit)**

Chicago, Aug. 7.

In an epoch dedicated to specialization it is perhaps not as revolutionary as it sounds in a trade sense to find Fanchon & Marco units playing Publix theatres. Having also sold their shows to Fox, Warners, Loew and in certain instances to RKO, the Los Angeles producing duo are merely proving the rule that it's often cheaper to eat in restaurants than cook at home. Especially if the cook is also the laundress and housekeeper, and having so little time for the cooking has to repeat the same dishes too much.

If there is one thing corporations, as such, haven't got it's false pride. That being true, at no greater cost than a few personal lacerations Publix wiped out its own production department and all that was thereby implied in overhead. In buying the Fanchon & Marco shows it was a question of money. But beyond and more than that it was the modern question again of specialization. Fanchon & Marco's stage show factory has reached Fordlike efficiency in its field.

Advance publicity on the first F&M unit modestly deprecated its merit. Yet it proved to be at the Chicago on Friday's opening show a divertissement in need of no apology. Better it could of course be. As good as average it most certainly is.

Easily the thing that stuck out and impressed was the novelty element. Nothing perhaps really new, yet a combination of effects, formations and trick props that is characteristically Fanchon & Marco.

F&M units having been given an "Idea" stick to it, develop it, get the fullest possible relationship between the motif and the scenery, costumes and talent. And this fidelity seems to be part of their successful formula. There's a pattern even in their hodge-podges.

Because Balaban & Katz wished it the title is "Pastels" instead of "Sketches," the original title which will be resumed after leaving Chicago. Also in response to a Beeandkay suggestion one act was eliminated and Les Gellis substituted.

There has been at no point along the line, Denver, Minneapolis or Chicago, any announcement by Publix of a change of stage policy. And nowhere is the firm name of Fanchon & Marco used.

Acts included Allen and Canfield, mixed gag team, who registered a notable click for this type of turn in so big an auditorium. Les Gellis were the other big laugh-getters and a unit-strengthener indubitably. Duke Art garnered his share of giggles with his trained clay. Limberlegs Edwards, a repeat around here, evoked applause by his lubricated joints. Mildred Perlee danced gracefully, and Frank Hopkinson, the tenor, actually made his lyrics distinguishable to the rear of the mezzanine.

Regular orchestra unit under Leopold Spitalny had Edward Vitto, highly rated harpist, as augmented feature. Stuart Barrie's organlude was liked.

On the screen Fox's "Transatlantic" seemed reasonably attractive to the public judging by a small holdout for the second performance. *Land.*

## ROXY

New York, Aug. 7.

Roxy shows off its lighting methods currently and to good advantage. Show is the first to give an insight into Clark Robinson's idea of stage handling. If this one may be counted as criterion, the Roxy stage end looks to rise even higher than in the past for sheer stage effects regardless of the talent.

It's a colorful assemblange of five scenes in what's known as "Songs of Love." Extra outside talent like Mazzoni and Keene, Barry and Fitzgibbon, and Betty Froos. All good and helping round out the current screen fare headed by "Young as You Feel" (Fox).

The stage show is without any laughter piece, which is its weakness, although Mazzoni and Keene do an apache against a No. 1 drop in a scene called "The Bowery," introduced by a male quartet picked from the house chorus. Latter indicates the rich talent that must be stocked in the Roxy house groups back stage. They sing some oldtime tunes in rich harmony and are followed by Barry and Fitzgibbon, modern dance team doing tango mooches in the next scene. This called "A Garden of Today."

Hard to tell how many arcs fell on Barry and Fitzgibbon from the Central Park Casino, but fully around nine. Those lights served to lend a gentility to their tango mooching that otherwise would not have been achieved.

Roxyettes followed. They also open the show in an orchestral prolog in a military routine with cadet uniforms. Chorus is on the side pergolas, and for extra effect, which went over big, the Roxyettes are helped with the addition of 12 girls from the ballet group. That gave the stage a line of 48 girls in a single number that filled the stage and looked like the biggest attempted on any stage. Finish their drill by flashing close to the footlights for their bow with a wallop.

For the ultra modern touch the show has Betty Froos, blonde and personable, singing from the pit accompanied by a pianist on a center elevator. Few voices can make that kind of turn at this house, which is saying something for Miss Froos, who looks like a find. Her voice is strong and vibrant, carrying much personality in its contralto swing. The scene is called an interlude and comes next to closing to give this unknown girl a show-stopping finish.

Patricia Bowman appears in the opening scene, "An Old-Fashioned Garden," in an old-fashioned waltz with angles, with the scenes alternating from full to one with the same grand stairway base except for hangings, which change. That saves time as well as money, while a prolog which preceded has Dorothy Miller and Carey Booth singing an old-fashioned tune accompanied by the pit and chorus from above.

Closing scene is "Wedding Bells," which has a subtle number in which a bride and bridegroom trot up the grand stairway before a minister. When the latter is expected to talk he doesn't. Instead the entire ensembles burst into song. The McQuarrie Harp Ensemble, six girl harpists, open this scene and stay throughout with everybody in the show on the stage.

Overture current is "Marches of the World," arranged by Maurice Baron, who also conducted. Usual organ preceding and Fox newsreel following. Altogether around 131 minutes, including 78 for the feature and around 34 for the stage end. *Shan.*

## PARAMOUNT, N. Y.

New York, Aug. 7.

This may and ought to be an above-average week. Stage show, 'Beaux Arts," is spotty on punch, but the screen has "Huckleberry Finn" (Par), another kid item with an appeal for adults. Plenty of children at the Friday night's eight o'clock show.

Jesse Crawford's organalog has that juvenile touch this week in introducing his "Poor Kid" program. Organist is on the stage and a little scene is enacted on the stage behind a scrim, with a kid singing a plaintive song. Other build-up is through a midget wedding with melody to fit.

A very short Par Pictorial, "Gilding the Goldfish," is spotted as filler. In colors that may be regarded as having mixed appeal, also the film booking division possibly having picked it for that reason.

Unit, produced by Boris Petroff, reveals nothing out of the ordinary. Opens with what is billed as "A Study in Jade." Provides for a beginning with the Albertina Rasch Ballet doing a toe routine, the 16 girls backing away to fill up the set for an Oriental entry, Young China.

These five Chinese run away with honors in a surefire routine of tricks ranging from acrobatics to contortion. While the contortion performed runs to the original, getting intermittent applause, it's the tap dance single that lands big.

Fred Sanborn, with his trick walk, facial gymnastics and the xylophone, has played here before, and all over Publix for that matter, but didn't click Friday night as usual. A part of his customary routine is out, including the shoe he kicks off for one laugh and the plant from the audience for a couple of others.

Arnold Johnson, in the show with his 10-piece band, plays straight for Sanborn, whose act is divided between "one" and the band, then split up some more to give the orchestra a chance. Probably explains Sanborn's weaker showing.

Johnson does a bit in "one" with a radio when static was Public Enemy No. 1 and the air was all mixed up. It's weakly developed and too long to be effective. With the Johnson combination a group of artists do some chalk drawing while Miriam Lax and Stella Power do a vocal double from a platform upstage. Apparently finishing their number before the artists did their drawing the singers floundered around a little and then resumed singing. When finished the sketches are hoisted into a large frame, result becoming a single landscape perspective. Not so exciting.

Last stanza is headed "Porcelain Romance." An inexpensive but gaudy set calling for the girls in crinoline gowns to do a little singing and moving about as background for an adagio quartet billed as the Porcelain Romancers. A clicksure routine heightened by the originality involved in having the girl, graceful at all times, do somersaults in the air, whirls, etc., as she's tossed around. Routine is a trifle long, but none the less a scorer. Unit runs 38 minutes.

Rubinoff, the mechanical director, doing "Dark Eyes," a not so colorful overture, and Paramount News rounds out.

Trailer on the coming picture is still the next-to-closing clip spliced into newsreel, but now dressed up like a news item. At the top of the title frame are the words "Sound News," with date line and title as though a red-hot item. Another Publix invention. *Char.*

## LOEW'S STATE, L. A.

Los Angeles, Aug. 5.

The State with "Politics" on the screen should be well over $40,000 and maybe hit $50,000 this week—200% normal trade—judging by the opening day's melee with cops and everything to keep the customers under control. Got so that instead of the scheduled five stage shows, in itself one above the usual weekday par, it was decided to make it six presentations of the F&M idea, with the house grinding out feature and show, feature and show. Newsreel, trailers and other shorts were sloughed, and even the credits on the Dressler-Moran dramatic-laff draw were chopped just to speed things up.

They sure smell 'em out. With the first stage presentation, literally a breakfast frolic at shortly after 11 a. m., they were in line by the hundreds and under jurisdiction of cops.

The "Five Races" idea was chopped to the bone,and as such it's a nifty vaudeville unit. Unit gets its idea of white, Indian, Jap, hula and colored variety specialists to represent the quintet of peoples.

Frank Jenks, ertswhile m.c., is not stationary here, but goes on tour with the unit, m.c'ing it and also doing a good act all his own. He opens in cap and gown to academically set the motif as a geographical lesson and thus, with the aid of set-pieces takes the audience to the various locales.

Chief Clear Sky (whose personal calling card proclaims him headman of all the Iroquois in America, although not ballyhooed) represents the redskins and is billed "the Indian Al Jolson." He does pop jazz in approved manner, although heavily burdened by native regalia, feathered headdress 'n' all.

Adams Sisters and Honera follow with the hula stuff. Thence Jenks, with his own act, including a dialectic song number which was just so-so. He has a blonde assistant, herself a not-bad comedienne, and between 'em, with the rest of their stuff, they chalked up a neat score.

Danny Small, dapper spade, sings Irish songs in nice voice, slipping in a pop, and has a man and woman assisting for the surefire hoofology. "Brother Nicodemus" mops up with his hoofing, and the woman, Josie, does a mean "Shakehips" Tucker routine, with Lew Leslie mentioned for credit. She does everything Tucker does, including the shiveree.

The Jap Kanazawa Troupe of six were a heavy score next with their risley work and pedal juggling.

Lou McDermott, trailer-heralded as stager, didn't, being called away to Salt Lake City for an emergency unit production, with Fanchon doing the idea.

It's another sample of the "production vaudeville" in which F&M takes so much pride, propagandizing this as the 1931 idea of a happy blending of variety shows to picture house proportions. It's a worthy achievement. *Abel.*

## PARAMOUNT, L. A.

Los Angeles, Aug. 7.

Having already given the world free wheeling, the law of gravitation and what's wrong with pictures, your correspondent had planned on sitting back and resting while someone else solved the mystery of Los Los Angeles theatre attendance. But as no one has grasped the opportunity this Fourth Great Thing must come from the same mind:

In New York one attends a theatre and then goes home to bed. In Los Angeles one arises from an early morning bed to go to a theatre. Which is why night attendance is slim, theatres are offering free parking and managers are even listening to remedial suggestions from persons who made their money in hardware or groceries.

With "Huckleberry Finn" (Par) healthily 24-sheeted in advance as good, clean entertainment, and kids piling in to see it clean or dirty, the Paramount had its main floor packed and was sending customers far into the upper reaches before noon Friday. When the house emptied its first batch and filled up with its second, there was still a goodly crowd roped outside. When biz started pouring in Thursday Oscar Baum's entertaining pit overture was the first thing sacrificed to turnover.

Stage show has its drawing qualities, being an assortment of juveniles probably recruited from local dance academies and appealing to the preponderance of youngsters in the house despite the inevitable intervals of amateurishness. And to head such a unit is Joe Lewis, onetime king of Chicago night club entertainers, who until recently was m. c.'ing the floor show at George Olsen's Culver City club. Lewis fits into the unit like an armless man's hand fits into a glove.

Lewis, entering first in the schoolroom set and school act atmosphere on which the presentation is based, of necessity dragged in the oldest and simplest gags he could find for juvenile reception. And he's the same guy who can make Chicago beer barons chuckle with slyly risque song parodies. Later with his stooge he rambled through a short hoke hand-to-hand burlesque routine and wound up with his comedy song which doesn't want to be about Lindbergh but is. Lewis won't be himself until he changes to a routine that really fits him for his holdover week. He is wasted this week.

Among the kid acts are a hula dancer, mixed dance quartet which shows much promise and will soon be old enough, and a contortionist who can do such things as lie perfectly flat upon her head. She will progress indubitably. There's also a line of 14 youngsters.

Presentation closes with a burlesque of Max Fleisher's bouncing ball cartoon shorts, with the stooge in a white sailor being jerked from word to word on a large screen by wires from the flies. One of the shorts was also on the bill to plant the idea. As the feature's title sheet started the stageful of kids was still visible romping about, making a neat atmospheric start for the film.

This theatre and Loew's State both holding 'em outside the same week is a novelty. *Bang.*

# NEWSREELS

### EMBASSY

New York, Aug. 8.

Congressman F. H. LaGuardia of New York makes one of his usual anti-prohibition speeches with usual vehemence in current Fox reel, with recent baby shootings in Harlem as the excuse. Very next clip shows Coast Guard with the yacht "Allegro" and $120,000 booze captured at sea off Philadelphia. Both clips muffed a proper intro, and the one coming after the other brought a laugh here.

To top it all off a clip of a bird confessing to a murder and holdup committed in Brooklyn 13 years or so ago. Crude and offside publicity for the D. A. of Brooklyn, who permitted it. Reason for the clip is in an intro title that this might aid in deterring crime. Maybe, but it doesn't seem the screen's job to do the policeman's or district attorney's work.

A couple of framed clips like a beauty contest in Coney Island, and the offside choice that was made with two old men deliberately stuck in with field glasses to provide a sex punch. Showgirls who hardly photograph well in film are shown modeling nighties, with a head on this clip, "You'll All Like This One," or something.

Two outstanding scenes worthy of interest. One showing machine gun bullets skidding towards an air target taken at Fort Monroe. The other of the discovery of the hydra in water by an Australian scientist. If this could be extended it could make a vital short to compare with Ufa's "Killing the Killer." Evidently somebody muffed a good idea.

Mayor Walker is shown giving Commr. Mulrooney the radio sendoff before his Honor sailed abroad. Mexican girls, maybe, are shown doing open-air high kicking like they've just learned. No particular purpose for this one unless it's the leg angle. Part of one of Emperor Caligula's galleys he used around 1,900 years ago is shown after being unearthed in or near Rome. Offscreen voice and the usual one which looks about ready to bore customers with its consistent unchanging inflections and facetious wisecracks.

Spill of a contestant in an outboard motorboat race on the Saginaw River is pretty good, the spill ending the clip out of focus. Girl jockeys racing at Agua Caliente. One about a colored flier aiming to fly to Abyssinia sometime is a slight tickle.

On the whole, with those unmentioned, a fair enough program, but lacking punch point because of poor arrangement. Program includes a "Magic Carpet" subject. "The Land of the Nile" (Fox) just fair and mostly silent travelogue. Altogether runs to around 58 minutes. *Shan.*

### TRANS LUX

Varied clips but lacking a summer punch unless it's Trudy Ederle showing kids how to swim. Wide range though. Outstanding might be the clip of hunting devil fish, by Pathe, while Paramount has one on King George dedicating the King George Hospital in Ilford is worthy closeup and piece of clear recording.

Result of a train wreck in California is shown. Among foreign clips are Duke and Duchess of York visiting the Colonial Exposition in Paris, with closeups of the royal pair (Pathe). Universal comes in with a new idea in togobban slides that rolls down the ways on wheels while that lion tamer in California, seen so often in reels, gets another break to demonstrate lions are really ferocious. That's news, perhaps.

Pathe gives the Warners a break in a credit title which has a Warner theatre band playing on the boardwalk at Atlantic City.

Those off-screen voices aren't what they might be cracked up to be as they go out of recording focus in attempts to dramatize beyond actual needs and for humor that isn't. All currently are making these mistakes.

Shows this part of the reels about due for readjustment, as everybody is utilizing the original Universal talk scheme in one way or another. On the weekly crime angle immigrants who violated country's laws are shown being deported and the thought is carried to a good conclusion with the shot of a ship sailing past the N. Y. water line.

Pathe shoves the rechristening of the Hammerstein Theatre to Manhattan Theatre in the "Who's Who on Broadway" sector, with George Gershwin playing a piano tune. The chiropractor gag gets a break with the annual back contest in California. Some of the girls were lookers, but their legs and general figure attracted more than the backs which may be the why for the clip. It's an annual thing with the chooser looking like the same and repeat judge.

Clip of a pigeon which walked 750 miles to its army homing basis gets good treatment as beginning of its fight is supposedly offered and its incidental hike besides the finish homeward.

What are supposed to be the first film shots of the Lindbergh baby are shown by Paramount at North Haven, Me. U. S. Senator Dwight Morrow, Mrs. Morrow and the Lindberghs also pose for a closeup, but the baby's nurse takes most of the footage and worthy. Universal also claims first pictures of the kid.

Program runs around 50 minutes in likely arrangement. *Shan.*

## DENVER

Denver, Aug. 6.

Fred Schmitt and the Denver orchestra have had better overtures than this one. Titled "Classical Rhythm" and started with Egyptian ballet music by Luginin, then Rubenstein's Melody in F, and wound up with a march called "The Denver Post March" and dedicated to the paper and its publisher. It had a wild west, rough and ready finish, with all the drums and brasses going full blast.

Featured on the "Vacations Days" Fanchon & Marco Idea is Zelda Stanley, who stopped the show with her dance-hall girls impersonation and the song "Ten Cents a Dance." Her impersonations were draggy at times but well received.

The line, dozen sprightly girls, could spread over the stage and look like two dozen. First line in vacation togs, with camping scene for background. Then in Tom Sawyer clothes with fishpoles and singing "But I Haven't Got You." For the third lineup the dears were deers—with antlers 'n' everything. In the final flash they were April flowers.

Black art adagio—by the three jacks and a queen—two of the jacks and the queen in white and the other jack in black—all against a black drop and a darkened stage. To see the woman thrown and caught and held or thrown back by someone you can't see—it's rather spookey but a good act.

Lee Wilmot and Ralph Peters danced a few foolish and funny steps and the audience got a few giggles out of them, especially when they were dressed hula fashion with tea-strainer breasts and six-inch green fringe for a skirt. On the stage several different times, they added considerable to the entertainment value.

According to the youngsters, the best act was the wild west show by Kirk and Lawrence. With a horse built around them, they impersonated Sitting Bull, Buffalo Bill, and gave a fast and slow motion horse race. This was voted the best act by the children—and there were a lot of them present—because the picture was "Huckleberry Finn."

Kathleen Kay, blonde acrobatic dancer, is fast, a good contortionist, and a pleasing entertainer.

Milton Franklyn, m.c., came out with an armful of instruments and played a tune on each. That was o. k., but when he tried to coax a tune out of two at once not so good.

Final flash had a desert setting, with line as April flowers. Along comes the sprinkler and flowers come to life. All members of the show on stage and doing part of their act. A fair finish.

Fair biz on the third show of the opener.

## FOX, BROOKLYN

Brooklyn, Aug. 8.

The F. & M. Idea "Mickey Mouse" on the stage was booked into the Fox this week, competing for the kid draw with the Brooklyn Paramount across the street, which is featuring on the screen "Huckleberry Finn."

Judging by the attendance for the second show Saturday, Fox will receive its full share of youngsters, besides adults who will go for Fox's "Transatlantic," screen feature here.

"Mickey Mouse" Idea is ingenious and quite different. Larry Ceballos takes credit for the staging. It was devised with the aid of Walt Dis-

(Continued on page 43)

# New Acts

**LANG and LAWLEY**
**Singing**
**12 Mins.; One**
**Hippodrome**

Billed at the theatre as Lang and Lawley and in the daily paper ads as Lang and Hawley gives the two men a chance to alibi any adverse criticism on their attempts at comedy. As Lang and Lawley they can claim big voices which blend well in harmony and as two boys who can deliver songs on the average vaude show to good results.

As Lang and Hawley they must take the rap for weary laugh attempts via talk. Punchless gags are sandwiched in between delightful song numbers and tend to slow up. Lang. And those drooping pants need a pair of suspenders. He was formerly a stooge for Adrian and later did an act with Voelk. There is no record here of Lawley or Hawley.

Two good singers, but not funny men. *Earl.*

**HARRISON and ELMO**
**Comedy**
**19 Mins.; One**
**Hippodrome**

When caught at the Hipp, this blackface team lost time at the start due to following a poor act. Under regular conditions the first part of their turn will stand up. Boys are students of Negro comedy, and the unbilled girl doing high brown aids in two sock specialties.

Act opens with a shoe-shine stand, the girl and one man seated, and the other member doing the polishing. A good getaway from the average opening. The dice game bit, which runs close to 10 minutes, is the big punch. There are a number of sock laughs mixed up in this bit between situations and business. A fast singing and dancing finish sent the trio off for solid results. *Earl.*

**BUD HARRIS (3)**
**Comedy, Songs, Dancing**
**15 Mins.; Two**
**Jefferson**

Act's name ought to be changed to Harris and somebody, or whoever the other lad is. Two colored boys with a nice sense of comedy doing a Moss and Frye but with new material. Also both take turns at the comedy. Each goes to the piano while the other sings, and both have voices.

For a finish Harris brings on his "kid brother," who does an imitation of Robinson's stair dance, credited, and another neat tap on his own. Good turn with a nice future ahead. *Kauf.*

**CHARLEY TOBIAS (3)**
**Songs, Dancing**
**14 Mins.; Two**
**Jefferson**

Charley Tobias, song writer, is doing all right. He sings fairly well, although using throughout Cantor mannerisms, and has almost enough talent as a comedian and singer to get it over.

Neat blonde stepper and a pianist who doubles for a comedy blackout, help. That blackout is plenty old, however, and might be changed. For a finish Tobias does the usual medley of his own numbers.

A little polishing of the comedy and the act ought to be okay anywhere. *Kauf.*

**GEORGE PRENTICE**
**Punch and Judy**
**6 Mins.; Two (Special)**
**Jefferson**

A Punch and Judy show along old-time kid lines. Most important prop is the slapstick and used plenty. Old business of the little puppet with the stick who's going to slap everything, with all of the other characters taking the stick away and lambasting him with it.

Prentice works it all himself from beneath the little stage on which the performance takes place. He knows his puppets as well as his kids. Good act in any nabe for kid consumption, and adults are likely to get a laugh out of it, too. *Kauf.*

**CASE BOYS and MARIE**
**Tight Wire**
**10 Mins.; Full**
**Jefferson**

The boys do the work on the wire. Woman acts as an assistant in handing props to the boys. Some of the stunts are circusy, but along difficult lines not undertaken by many.

One boy does a back somersault and the other a leap over four chairs. Neat act and oke for either end. *Mark.*

**KING and BURNETT**
**Songs**
**11 Mins.; One**
**Jefferson**

Two women who stick to singing and make a success of it. Topical numbers in nice harmony.

Good voices of high range and an unqualified hit here. *Mark.*

**SHELDON and FRAYNE**
**Comedy and Songs**
**15 Mins.; One**
**Jefferson**

Amazonian blonde woman and undersized man make up this combo, which veers to comedy through the latter's falls. They sing, too, but the try for comedy clicked best at this house, and it was sufficient to get them over strongly. *Mark.*

## PALACE, CHICAGO

Chicago, Aug. 8.

Capacity and a substantial hold-out on a hot August Saturday gave proof of the growing Palace habit. And that habit is the dividends being earned by good vaudeville bills. Of recent months the average of entertainment has been high, with palooka layouts the exception. Formerly the Palace was drawing some pretty bad vaudeville shows.

Publicity, of course, has played its part in making the public Palace-conscious. John Joseph has been using the largest cheltenham for the acts, although this week there's added emphasis on the film, possibly because the headliner, Harriet Hoctor, is less well known in Chicago than New York.

Beeandkay's Oriental is commonly deemed to be the most direct opposition to the Palace. Both houses depend upon their stage and count but little on the screen. But with a difference. A well-balanced show is the Palace aim. A box office "name" is the Oriental formula. In the long pull, regardless of isolated spurts, the Palace has the better system.

Saturday's crowd did not fail to recognize Miss Hoctor as the creme de la creme in dancers. And to her three male assistants, Charles Columbus, George Calhoun and an unticketed accordionist, they accorded due measure of approbation.

Six Galenos opened speedily and solidly. Followed Wills and Davis, who did the unusual for a deucer by stopping the performance. But spoiled it by succumbing to the temptation seemingly so irresistible to vaudeville actors. Meaning they made a speech. Not to cavil at trifles, however, the main fact remains that this team did a mop up. Largely with gags; the hardest type of material to handle. Particularly nowadays with a new generation fed on sight business and not trained to listen.

Don Zelaya, fourth, followed the Hoctor turn. Scooping out the hokum by the ladle yet never letting his victims realize it was hoke, he found no trouble in affixing his initials on a hit.

Closing was Charlie Ahearn's triple percussion mess of hoke. No doubt about what method he uses. It's unashamed slapstick. Let those who have attempted to compound a full turn of the undiluted product testify how hard the seeming simplicity of expert custard pie tossing is. Ahearn's long experience was evident in the skill with which the bits, all disjointed and bearing no connection one to the other, were welded into a whole. He brought the show to a strong conclusion. Generous and shoulder-deep giggle fodder was exactly what the spot required, and Ahearn delivered.

That film that got the extra exploitation is Richard Dix in "The Public Defender" (Radio). *Land.*

## 86TH ST.

Cooler Saturday but business wasn't so good. Picture, "The Public Defender" (Radio).

Vaude section holds nothing new to the nabe but it had sufficient comedy punch to make it interesting. They eat hoke up here as elsewhere.

Bud and Frances Craig opened. Dancing turn which went along quietly until old folks were introduced. Fritz and Jean Aubert were emphatic with their rough and tumble. Fritz, despite a recent injury, didn't seem to mind taking risks on his falls. A swell act for vaude.

Oklahoma Bob Albright had a soft spot, no singing ahead of him, and he moved along easily. Dancing of the colored boy clinched. Closing were the Mandels, and an easy hit all the way. *Mark.*

## HIPPODROME

The RKO penchant for college men almost wrecked a good vaude show at the Hipp Saturday matinee. The 8 Sons of Eli, boys from Yale, walk on and off in an amateurish manner and sing the same way. Spotted sixth, important at this house, they followed five good vaude acts and slowed up the bill to the extent that the next to closer was in a fog for five minutes.

It's a good seven-act bill. Jed Dooley, with his unbilled femme eyefull copped laughs with his nonchalant style and hoke biz. His sax bit is still neat and the gag directed at the wandering usher who strolled down the aisle in the middle of a comedy point was right on the nose. Dooley is good vaude.

May Usher has a fine clear voice and a flock of talent but leans to off color material which seems to be a mistake. Miss Usher can ring up a sock without the dirt. Her voice with no effort could be heard to the back wall at this big house and her enunciation and diction are okay. They liked her.

Harrison and Elmo (New Acts) had a tough struggle following the undergraduates and the first part of their act was hard sledding. They landed, however, with the dice bit. Lang and Lawley (New Acts) held up the deuce spot okay. Two man singing turn with plenty of pipes.

Walter Jennizer and Buddy is an educated seal act of the first rank. Seal worked in nifty style and must have a sense of humor in order to pull the laughs it got on the horn trick. Nicely paced by Jennizer.

Petite Revue, a George Choos offering, is sold in a tasty manner amid some nice settings. Talent in the act measures up with no one topping. Everyone does a specialty.

Allison Sisters, three, opened nicely with unison acrobatics and several other tricks which pulled applause. The girls are rather pretty and make a nice picture.

Business about half, fair enough for summer Saturdays in a house with no cooling system. Picture, "Holy Terror" (Fox). *Earl.*

## STATE

Projectors fling out "Five and Ten" (M-G) currently, and the other end of the house serves up six acts with not a single punch in the stage 93 minutes.

Jack Osterman, next to closing and doubling as m.c., fails to sock home as might have been expected. His own spot has more weakness than Osterman should show or has shown in the past, while the m.c. assignment means practically nothing at all. Lone exception is a fast laugh from a blackout with Frances Shelley, seconder, as a prelude to Osterman's own routine.

His number "as Rudy Vallee would do it" threatens a laugh, but could have been developed more effectively. And the mother effort closing, "Hum a Hymn to Her," exhibits its weakness in the almost superhuman endeavor Osterman makes to arouse applause for it. Osterman seemed far from in his best fettle.

A comedy sketch, Abe Reynolds Co. (two people) around some time and no great shakes despite being well played. Reynolds originally came from burlesque and his material sounds like it. A Hebe comedian, working with a comely foil, his laughs are drawn mostly from dialect surrounding several trite situations. The swingover into a song for the girl is clumsy.

Preceding act is Frank and Peter Trado, yet dancers, who now pad their hoofing by a few hitless gags, some meaningless clowning and plenty of stalling. Even the close, with one of the Trados on the shoulders of the other, with a long coat to cover understander, falls to pieces through an awkward getaway. Their buck and wing specialty is fast, same going for a preceding number.

Frances Shelley drew No. 2. Her's was treacherous going throughout. Osterman forced an encore. Opener was Parker and Babb with an orchestra of six Filipinos. Much too long in doing 19 minutes. Dancing of team, including waltz, tango, etc., pleases, as does single by the girl, but on whole act has nothing special to offer.

Closing the Kikulas for top applause Saturday afternoon on their fast routine of tumbling, juggling and risley work. Odd when an act of this type shows up the strongest from the audience point of view. Business fair. *Char.*

## JEFFERSON

Spotty bill but with some good turns with Alexander Carr. "Public Defender (Radio) is the picture. Result was a packed house with beaucoup standees Saturday night.

Carr, in that old Aaron Hoffman sketch, "Toplitzky," which has been kicking around for more than 20 years, walked away. Sketch still has a punch, especially in nabes of this type, as played by Carr. Finish was so strong it made it tough on Bob Robison, who followed.

Robison, next to closing, was really weak. He would have fared better earlier. Switching him with Bud Harris would probably have been more like it, Harris looking strong enough to carry the burden.

Opening are John and Mary Mason, neat little roller act, boy and girl. A little too much stalling on the main trick with three gag falls. Turner Brothers are made to order for 14th street. Couple of lads in sailor costume doing hand-to-hand and taps. Okay all the way.

George Prentice (New Acts) has a novelty Punch and Judy show along lines that haven't been seen in the theatre for many years. The kids liked it. Charley Tobias (New Acts) is one of those song writers singing his own songs. A trained vaudevillian, however, having worked as a single for years, and has assembled a nice company to help. Bud Harris (New Acts) next, but why just one name billed? Two colored boys with a neat line of chatter, piano playing and songs.

Robison hasn't a bad act, but it's essentially weak through insufficient material and its finish. About half through Robison decides to stop working, introduces his two stooges and the gal, let's them do their stuff and comes out himself for a speech. Cunningham and Clements closed with a fine flash dancing troupe. *Kauf.*

# *Good Beer Winning Out*

(Continued from page 1)

from beer that has been creating the intense rivalry between mobs when encroaching upon one another's territory.

It's said the only peril involved in the present beer brewing is that the beer as brewed nowadays must be quickly consumed, else it sours. That is the risk of the purchaser. The danger of interference isn't considered seriously, it is claimed, by the brewers since in the manufacture of beer at present there is difficulty in securing evidence it is genuine beer that is being brewed, even though the brewery is in wide open operation.

### Protection

The hazard, say the conversant ones, is in the delivery. Purchase of beer from the right parties is presumed to carry protection with it. That corrects the prevailing impression of the muscle men. Muscle men mostly collect payment as their duty. The nearest expose of this phase of beer handling and delivery has been made by the Warners' picture "Public Enemy." In that film the two muscle boys forced their brand of beer upon a saloonkeeper. That former condition has been rectified by the reorganization of the beer industry, into controlling gangs. There are too many saloons or speaks now buying beer who could not be forced into purchasing anything they did not want. But the right parties in a beer zone presumably deliver protection along with the barrels.

That is the unknown side of the entire liquor racket, which takes in a booze-handler being obliged to add $25 upon the cost of a case of booze immediately the whiskey leaves the boat. How that $25 is split or where it goes never has been disclosed.

### Gave Brewery for Present

The rapidly increasing wealth of beer brewery owners received a recent illustration in the east when the owners of a million dollar brewery made a present of it to one of their pals. This pal had taken a rap, did his stretch and upon returning to the home seat, was presented with the entire beer plant as his exclusive property.

Some observers say that the glass price of beer at 25c, more or less, according to location, is favored in these bad times, as against the higher cost per glass or bottle of whiskey. This is vehemently disputed by proponents of beer drinking. Latter claim that beer or ale is the universal call of Americans, who were forced into whiskey drinking channels, especially Scotch whiskey, by the Prohibition Amendment, when beer for years after easily located became more dangerous as a drink than bad booze.

Now that good beer has whipped liquor into its original state, the drinkers are merely reverting to their first choice, the beer men state, and that is beer.

It's also their argument that an amendment of the liquor enforcement law to permit beer and ale would be the first move for real temperance this country has yet attempted.

# *Door Keys*

(Continued from page 3)

even in a child's picture. This has been ordered strickened out of the dialog of at least six features.

Titles of books on the market may also be subject to elimination by the Studio Committee.

A convict shown drinking in his cell was excluded, the reason being because of any interpretation of inefficiency or ridicule of the police.

"Aw nerts" is another phrase that cannot be used even by kid actors.

Another producer has learned that he will have to watch the dialog credited court clerks and government officials. No marrying screen official is allowed to talk of "shot gun weddings."

### No 'Reformer' Kidding

A feature that used the word "reformer" in its dialog brought action. Too much trouble can be stirred up by using this word in a comedy vein.

A number of pictures have had the word "hell" and phrase "go to the devil" stricken out.

A feature on gambling received an onus mark which will carry considerable weight from now on probably with all such themes. It said not to show a roulette wheel and the chips at the same time. One or the other is deemed sufficient to get the point over.

On married couples kissing on the arms and shoulders also frowned upon in another production.

As yet no comparative statistics between official censorships hearings and code preenings. The industry has decided, according to its highest sources, to cut voluntarily before rather than be slashed by compulsion, after.

# *Writers Welding*

(Continued from page 3)

which both branches were members.

### Looking Ahead

That the writers are looking ahead to a possible studio walkout is evident under the surface. Indication of this is the centralizing of demand machinery under the banner of a separate organization. Also one of the demands submitted to the producers is to eliminate contracts and substitute an agreement whereby termination of writer agreements at studios could be closed at four weeks' notices from either side. Back of this is the resultant ability to call out every writer if necessary.

Within the last week both the Authors' League and the Dramatists' Guild have agreed that should any screen writer be dropped from the local organization for non-payment of dues he cannot become a member in the future of any of these organizations unless all dues be paid up to that time. This is figured as virtually a club to force recognized writers to hold onto their present memberships.

### Story Sources

With such an arrangement is a futher understanding it is reported, that in case of a walkout by writers here all story supplies could be cut off from the studios at their sources. A mixup between local screen writers would see members of the Authors' League and Dramatists' Guild, comprising the leading authors and playwrights, refusing to sell material to the studios.

At the first confab between the writers and producers, the recommendations of the various committees were read, occupying an hour and a half in the reading. Without discussing the issues involved the producers asked for the particulars on which the grievances and demands were based.

Writers have decided to give such information to the executives, although it means tipping off names and incidents. This won't be so kosher with the writers who have squawked, it is felt. This fact is also in mind in the present plans for welding the scribblers under one banner, that could, unlike the present Academy affiliation, be a warring body if the occasion arises.

## FOX, BROOKLYN

(Continued from page 42)

ney, cartoonist and creator of Mickey Mouse.

Toots Novelle is Mickey Mouse, the costume being exactly like the Mickey of the screen. He carries off the impersonation well through his mannerisms. Toward the finish takes off his costume and does a stair dance on his hands.

Outstanding number is an imitation of the film's "Silly Symphony." It's done on a darkened stage, with all the animals seen in these screen cartoons impersonated on the stage, all doing fantastic numbers and bits. Darkened stage, plus the lighting substance on the clothes, puts it over solid.

A comedy bit between a young girl, Helen Petch, and a boy, Chrissie Daley, in a dog's costume, fairly novel. Not up to the rest of the unit. But doesn't hurt. Girl follows this with a short tap and acrobatic dance. Daley is later on as a femme Mickey Mouse for trick pedicycle riding. Follows this with a crutch dance done in an unusual fashion. A corking bit.

Three Rolling Stones, boys, are included in regular vaude fashion, alone. Good comedy trio of the slapstick variety. Get plenty laughs out of some solid patter and hoke antics. Finish is weaker than their opening.

Louis and Cherie, aerial acrobatics, close. Fast duo and smart routine.

Staging from start to finish is good. Costuming is above customary.

F. & M. have an unusual Idea this week at the Fox, Brooklyn.

# Variety Bills

NEXT WEEK (AUG. 15)
THIS WEEK (AUG. 8)

Numerals in connection with bills below indicate opening day of show, whether full or split week

## RKO

**NEW YORK CITY**
**Palace (8)**
Arthur Petley Co
Morgan & Stone
Lew Pollack Co
Wm Gaxton Co
Lyda Roberti
Kate Smith
Lou Holtz
**Chester**
1st half (15-18)
Roy & Romero
Abbott & Robey
Blossom Seeley Co
G & M Elaine
3 Am Beauties
2d half (19-21)
Rolls & Dorothy
Edith Bow
Nat Chic Haines
Maker & Redford
Everett Sanderson
B Thomashefsky
Bob Murphy Co
Hazel Mangean Co
2d half (12-14)
8 Sons of Eli
Harmon & Sands
2d half (19-21)
Swan Lucille & C
Lassiter Bros
Harrington Bros
Herman Timberg
2d half (12-14)
Aussie & Czech
Dane Mallen
Eddie Garr
Gus Edwards Rev
**Colisemu**
1st half (15-18)
Charles King
Castleton Mack & O
(Two to fill)
2d half (19-21)
Albertina Rasch Co
D & H Blossom
Brems F & M Bros
New York to Paris
2d half (12-14)
G Lee & Harris 2
Edgar Bergen
Carroll & Doree
Colleano Fam
**86th St.**
2d half (15-18)
J & M Mason
Geo Prentiss
Chas Tobias
Bud Harris Co
Alex Carr Co
Bob Robison Co
Cunningham & C
**Royal**
1st half (15-18)
Rasso
Bob Fisher
India Fantasies
Coscia & Verdi
Lydia Barry
Hazel Manjean Co
2d half (19-21)
Braill & Pallo
Jue Fong
Tyrell & Fawcett
Spencer & Williams
Pat West Co
2d half (12-14)
Cooper & Clifton
3 Ryans
Primrose Seamon
Frank Dobson Co
Chas McNally Co
Dora Costa Co

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Al Segal
(Others to fill)
2d half (19-21)
Gordon Reed & K
Armida
(Two to fill)
2d half (12-14)
Albertina Rasch Co
H & D Blossom
Brems F & M Bros
New York to Paris
**Fordham**
1st half (15-18)
Irving Edwards
A Friedland's Rev
(Two to fill)
2d half (19-21)
Boswell Sis
Castleton Mack & O
(Two to fill)
2d half (12-14)
The Ghezzis
Geo Broadhurst
Bob Albright Co
Calif Collegians
**Franklin**
1st half (15-18)
Braille & Pallo
**BROOKLYN, N. Y.**
**Albee (15)**
F & J Hubert
Ed G. Robinson
(Three to fill)
(8)
Faber & Wales
Neil Golden Orch
Richy Craig Jr
Harry Delmar's Rv
**Flushing**
1st half (15-18)
Albertina Rasch Co
D & H Blossom
Brems F & M Bros
New York to Paris
2d half (19-21)
Neil Golden Orch
(Others to fill)
2d half (12-14)
4 Cirillo Bros
Corner Drug Store
Roy Sedley
Fifi Dorsay
**Kenmore**
1st half (15-18)
Kluting's Co
Forum Boys

Aug. 12 Opening Warner's
NORTHERN OHIO THEATRES
**SALT and PEANUTS**
Now in 12th Month at Station WLW, Cincinnati

Everett Sanderson
Maker & Redford
B Thomashefsky
Rube Demarest Co
2d half (19-21)
Miller & Wilson
Al Belasco Co
B & E Newell
Foster's Animals
2d half (12-14)
Arthur Ward Co
Neil Jewell
Anthony & Rogers
Stan Stanley
Sally Rand Co
Barry & Whitledge
**Hippodrome (15)**
Paddy Saunders
Kohn & DePinto
Dave Mallin Co
Gloria Lee Co
Roy Sedley Co
Nat Busby Co
Pat Henning
Great Huber
(8)
Allison Sis
Lang & Lawley
Walter Jennier & B
Mae Usher
Jed Dooley Co
8 Sons of Eli
Harrison & Elmo
Petite Rev
**Jefferson**
1st half (15-18)
Miller & Wilson
Heller & Reilly
Carl Freed Co
B & J Brown
Dodge 2
Jean Granese
2d half (19-21)
June Carr
(Others to fill)
2d half (12-14)
Turner Bros
Angus & Searle
Gus Van
Natacha Natova
**Madison**
1st half (15-18)
Swan Lucille & C
Lassiter Bros
Harrington Sis
Herman Timberg
2d half (19-21)
Roy & Romero
Abbott & Robey
8 Sons of Eli
Harmon & Sands
2d half (12-14)
Mangean Tr
Geo McClellan
Shean & Cantor
Daly's Discoveries
**AKRON, O.**
**Palace (15)**
Jack LaVier
Ann Pritchard
Art Henry
Toto
(8)
Christensen Bros
Ray Hughes & P
Bernard & Henry
Joe Laurie Jr Co
**ALBANY, N. Y.**
**Keith's**
1st half (15-18)
Downey & Claridge
Donald Kerr Co
Frank Melino Co
2d half (19-21)
3 Allison Sis
J & N Kelly
G & M Elaine
Carl Freed Co
2d half (12-14)
3 Lordens
Bertalino
Roy Sedley Co
Mme Donatelli
**ATLANTA, GA.**
**Keith's (15)**
De Toregos
Sidney Page
Aunt Jemima
Michon Bros
(8)
Vardell Bros
Harry Fox
Small Bros & H
Evans & Mayer
**BIRM'GH'M, ALA.**
**Keith's (15)**
Farrell Bros
Kardell Bros
Harry Fox
Small Bros & H
Evans & Mayer
(8)
J & B Cavanaugh
Kennedy Sis
Joe Termini
Al B White
**BOSTON, MASS.**
**Keith's (15)**
Charles Carrer
Trixie Friganza
**LINCOLN, NEB.**
**Lyric (15)**
Earl Faber Co
(8)
Nellie Arnaut Co
**LOS ANGELES**
**RKO Hillstreet**
(15)
Chaney & Fox
Paul Mall
Eddie Stanley
Y'gst'rs of Y'st'rd'y
(8)
8 Feet of Rhythm
Furman S & L
Pepito
Puck & White
**LOUISVILLE, KY.**
**Keith's (15)**
4 Kadex
Fulton & Parker
Deno & Rochelle
Healy & Cross
(8)
Jungleland
Chesleigh & Gibbs
Bartram & Saxton
Harry J Conley Co
Muriel Kay Co
Frank Libuse
**MADISON, WIS.**
**Keith's**
1st half (15-18)
Hal Sherman
2d half (19-21)
Muriel Kay Co
Major Sharp & M
Roy Cummings
2d half (12-14)
The Kitaros
Oliver Harris & A

HARRY SAVOY
**JUST JESTING**
FOR LEDDY & SMITH

Eddie Deas Orch
Berkes & Wallace
Kitty Doner
Clifford & Marion
(8)
Acrobatic Flyers
Gleason & Allen
J & K Spangler
Joseph Regan
Herb Williams
**BUFFALO, N. Y.**
**Hippodrome (15)**
3 McCann Sis
Fortunello & Cirill
Joe May & Dottie
Ledova Co
Kramer & Boyle
(8)
Lester Irving 3
Ada Brown
Dave Vine
Joe Herbert's Rev
Harry Langdon Co
**CHICAGO, ILL.**
**Palace (15)**
7 Trojans
Boyd Senter
Moore & Lewis
Anita Case
James Barton
(8)
6 Galenos
Wills & Davis
Harriett Hoctor Co
Zelaya
Chas Ahern Co
**CINCINNATI, O.**
**Albee (15)**
Bub Harris Co
A & M Havel
Groody & Fleeson
(8)
7 Trojans
Boyd Senter
Moore & Lewis
Anita Case
James Barton
**CLEVELAND, O.**
**Palace (15)**
Casting Stars
Wills & Davis
Harriett Hoctor
Zelaya
Chas Ahern Co
(8)
4 Kadex
Billy Farrell Co
Bessie Love Co
Howard Fine & H
Chinese Collegians
**105th St. (15)**
Earl Jack & Betty
Fields & Bell
Roxy's Gang
Lewis & Ames
(8)
Jack LaVier
Ann Pritchard
Art Henry
Toto
**C'D'R RAPIDS, IA.**
**Keith's**
1st half (15-18)
Rath Bros
Reilly Kids
(Two to fill)
2d half (19-21)
Gordon's Dogs
Keller Sis & Lynch
Wally Vernon Co
2d half (12-14)
June Purlans Co
Joe Wong & Fumi
Devito & Denny
**DAVENPORT, IA.**
**Keith's**
1st half (15-18)
June Purlans Co
Joe Wong & Fumi
Devito & Denny
2d half (19-21)
Tyler Mason
Donatella Bros Co
2d half (12-14)
Rath Bros
Reilly Kids
Earl Faber Co
**DES MOINES, IA.**
**Keith's**
1st half (15-18)
Tyler Mason
Donatella Bros Co
2d half (19-21)
Oliver Harris & A
Violet Carlson
2d half (12-14)
Gordon's Dogs
Keller Sis & Lynch
Wally Vernon Co
**KANS. CITY, MO.**
**Keith's (15)**
Robbins 3
Nash & Fately
Olsen & Johnson
(8)
Marion Wilkins Co
Walter Dare Wahl
Giersdorf Sis
Violet Carlson
**MILW'KEE, WIS.**
**Keith's (15)**
Victoria & Lorenz
Hibbitt & Hartman
Jerome Mann
Anatole's Affairs
(8)
Rhapsody in Silk
Ewing Eaton
Burns & Kay
Karyl Norman
Harry Burns
**MIN'POLIS, WIS.**
**Keith's (15)**
Rhapsody in Silk
Birnes & Kaye
Karyl Norman
Harry Burns Co
(8)
Stanley 8
Eddie White
Ross & Bennett
Runaway 4
**NEWARK, N. J.**
**Keith's (15)**
Lido Ladies
May Usher
Ardine & Tyrell
Farina & Sis Jane
(8)
Case Bros & Marie
Henry J Kelly
Lander Bros
Bernice & Emily
Ed G Robinson
**OAKLAND, CAL.**
**Keith's (15)**
Zelda Bros
Frank Conville
Burns & Allen
(8)
Chaney & Fox
Paul Mall
Eddie Stanley
Y'gst'rs of Y'st'rd'y
**OMAHA, NEB.**
**Keith's (15)**
Wilson Kepple & B
Elmer Cleve
Wm Edmunds Co
Rae Samuels
(8)
Robbins 3
Nash & Fately
Olsen & Johnson
**PATERSON, N. J.**
**Keith's**
1st half (15-18)
Jerome & Ryan
Chic Haines Co
Al Belasco
3 Lordens
2d half (19-21)
Rube Demarest Co
Drug Store Cowb'ys
Ted Leary
2d half (12-14)
Lassiter Bros
Tony Pagliacci
Nat Renard Co
Ryan & Noblett
Carl Freed Co
**PHILADELPHIA**
**Earle (15)**
Billy Glason
Delmar's Revels
(8)
Gilbert Bros
Powers & Jarrett
Adelaide Hall Co
Joe Marks
**PORTLAND, ORE.**
**Keith's (15)**
Lee 2
Jack North
Annie Judy & Zeke
Ann Codee
(8)
Lewis & Altee
Crowell & Allen
Ben Blue
Kingdom for Sale
**ROCH'ST'R, N. Y.**
**Keith's (15)**
Don Valerio
Will Aubrey
Gracella & Theo
Seed & Austin
(8)
Earl Jack & Betty
Roxy's Gang
Fields & Bell
Lewis & Ames
**ROCKFORD, ILL.**
**Palace**
1st half (15-18)
The Kitaros
Oliver Harris & A
Violet Carlson
2d half (19-21)
Reilly Kids
Rath Bros
2d half (12-14)
Hall & Erminie
Frank Richardson
Arnaut Bros
**SALT LAKE, UT.**
**Liberty (15)**
Kafka Stanley & M
Talent & Merit
Vanessi
Burns & Kissen
(8)
Wilson Kepple & B
Elmer Cleve
Wm Edmunds
Rae Samuels
**S'N F'RISCO, CAL.**
**Golden Gate (15)**
Edler & Reed Bros
Phil Rich
Marion Sunshine
Larry Rich Co
(8)
Zelda Bros
Frank Conville
Burns & Allen
**SCH'N'CT'DY, N.Y.**
**Keith's**
1st half (15-18)
Sally Rand Co
Nat Renard Co
Murray & Allen
Koran
2d half (19-21)
Case Bros & Marie
Cole Bros
Lockfords
Koran
2d half (12-14)
Agemos
Kohn & DePinto
Irv Edwards' Rev
**SEATTLE, WASH.**
**Keith's (15)**
Geo Tapps Rev
John Steel
Harlemania
Stuart & Lash
**TACOMA, WASH.**
**Keith's (15)**
Lois Torres
Eddie Miller Co
M & A Skelly
P Rooney & Pat Jr
(8)
Lee 2
Jack North
Annie Judy & Zeke
Ann Codee
**TOLEDO, O.**
**Rivoli (15)**
Christensen Bros
Ray Hughes & P
Bernard & Henry
Joe Laurie Jr Co
(8)
F & E Monroe
Hibbitt & Hartman
Jerome Mann
Anatole's Affairs
**TORONTO, CAN.**
**Hippodrome (15)**
Lester Irving 3
Ada Brown Co
Dave Vine
Joe Herbert's Rev
Harry Langdon
(8)
4 Fantinos
Honey Boys
Carleton & Ballew
Blanche Sweet Co
Lee Lee Lee & Lee
**VANCOUV'R, B. C.**
**Keith's (15)**
Joe Peanuts
Nell Kelly
Maidie & Ray
Bob Hope
(8)
Geo Tapps Rev

**JACK WALDRON**
and MISS HARRIETT
Headlining for Fanchon and Marco

Afterpiece
(8)
Lois Torres Co
Eddie Miller
M & A Skelly
P Rooney & Pat Jr
**ST. LOUIS, MO.**
**Keith's (15)**
Betty Jane Cooper
Lathrop Bros
Medley & Duprey
Cardini
Louise & Neville
Groody & Fleeson
Charlie Foy Co
**ST. PAUL, MINN.**
**Keith's (15)**
Stanley 2
Eddie White
Ross & Bennett
Runaway 4
(8)
Southern Gaieties
Leon Navarra
Henry Bergman Co
Hal Sherman
**SYRACUSE, N. Y.**
**Keith's (15)**
Aussie & Czech
Flo Lewis
Eddie Garr
Gus Edwards' Rev
(8)
Don Valerio
Will Aubrey
Gracella & Theo
Seed & Austin
John Steel
Harlemania
Stuart & Lash
Afterpiece
**YONKERS, N. Y.**
**Keith's**
1st half (15-18)
Manhattan Nites
Ted Leary Co
S S Malaria
B & E Newell
Foster's Animals
2d half (19-21)
5 Elgins
Bob Fisher
Conroy & Higgins
Nat Renard Co
Bob Robison
2d half (12-14)
T & B Waters
Jack Majbr
June Carr Co
Pat Lane Co
Geo Andree Rev
**YOUNGSTOWN, O.**
**Keith's (15)**
Gwynne Co
Billy Farrell Co
Powers & Jarett
Bessie Love Co
Howard Fine & H
(8)
Fortunello & Cirill
Mann B'f'rd & Van
Sid Marion
Nick Lucas

**The CHRISTENSEN'S**
Whose dancing lends class and tone to RKO intact No. 53.
Thanks JACK HART

## Loew

**NEW YORK CITY**
**Boulevard**
1st half (15-18)
Edwin George
Silvia Miller
Danny Duncan Co
Milton Berle
Bee Morris Rev
2d half (19-21)
Helen Lach 3
4 New Yorkers
Ryan & Noblette
Caites Bros
Loretta Grey Co
**Orpheum**
1st half (15-18)
On Wah
Edison & Louise
Foster & Van
Sammy Cohen
Ardine & Tyrell Rev
2d half (19-21)
Arthur Petley Co
Bob Brandeis
Montrose & R'nolds
J Candulo Orch
(One to fill)
**Paradise (15)**
Condos Bros
Chrystie & Nelson
Miles & Kover
Jack Reid
Rudy Mason
Elbey & Reese Rev
2d half (19-21)
Al Libby Co
King & Burnet
Coogan & Casey
Krugel & Robles
M Hoffman & Girls
**Valencia (15)**
D Harris & Frankie
Ethel Rhea
P Sydell & Spotty
Jones & Hull
**ASTORIA, L. I.**
**Triboro**
(1st half (15-18
NTG H'wood Rev
2d half (19-21)
Ted & Teddy
Murray & Moss
Anderson & Graves
Ralph Rogers Co
Doc Baker Co
**BALTIMORE, MD.**
**Loew's (15)**
Fred Keating
P Taylor-G Leon 4
Georgie Hayes
**BAY RIDGE, L. I.**
**Loew's**
1st half (15-18)
Hathaway Co
Mae Francis
Webb, Douglas Co

OFFICIAL DENTIST TO THE N. V. A.
**DR. JULIAN SIEGEL**
1560 Broadway
This Wk.: Johnny Burke; Smith O'Brien

**State (15)**
Ralph Olsen Co
3 Keena Sis
2 Daveys
Mike Ames
J C Flippen
Fay Brady
E Zardo & Z'd'lans
**BROOKLYN, N. Y.**
**Gates Ave.**
1st half (15-18)
Ted & Teddy
Ted Adolphud Co
Stone & Lee
Bee & Ray G'm R'v
(One to fill)
2d half (19-21)
NTG H'wood Rev
**46th St.**
1st half (15-18)
Al Libby Co
Bobby Rollins Co
Caites Bros
J Candullo Orch
(One to fill)
2d half (19-21)
Van Horn & Inez
Mae Francis
Ted Adolphus Co
Jones & Wilson
D Vernette Co
**Metropolitan (15)**
Les Ghezzis
J & J McKenna
Billy Kelly Co
Jack Osterman
(One to fill)
**Pitkin**
1st half (15-18)
Arthur Petley Co
Bob Brandies
Coulin & Lyons Co
Ryan & Noblette
Krugel & Robles
D'thy Vernette Co
2d half (19-21)
Jack & Jerry
Russel & Marconi
Moore M'D'ld K'ler
Stone & Lee
Bomby Gang
**BOSTON, MASS.**
**Loew's (15)**
Gannon & Perez
Ruth Ford
Melody Parade
Moss & Frye
Edith Karen & Boys
**BUFFALO, N. Y.**
**Loew's (15)**
Dave Schooler
3 Swifts
Phelps Twins
3 Jacks
**CLEVELAND, O.**
**Granada (15)**
Bert Frohman
Kaye & Sayre
June Worth
Noveelee Bros
**COLUMBUS, O.**
**Palace (15)**
Rome & Gaut
Don Cummings
Ivan Triesault
Douglas Stanbury
**J.RS"Y CITY, N.J.**
**Loew's (15)**
Al Wohlman
Wilton Crawley
Geraldine
Frank Farnum
3 Queens
**MONTREAL, CAN.**
**Loew's (15)**
Campbell & Brady
Ethel Pastor
Francis & Wally
Jones & Rea
Carl Shaw Co
**NEWARK, N. J.**
**Loew's (15)**
B. & L. Gillette
Mme Pompadour
Chas McNally Co
Harry Hershfield
Calif. Collegians
**NEW JERSEY**
**Palisades Pk (15)**
H & Florey Marten
Lya & Wolf
Jordan & Grace
Vasques
**PITTSBURGH, PA.**
**Loew's (15)**
Gold & Raye
Harrison & Fisher
Conrad & Eddy
**ROCHEST'R, N. Y.**
**Loew's (15)**
F Waring Penn's
**SYRACUSE, N. Y.**
**Loew's (15)**
Wesley Eddy
3 Sailors
A & Louise Carr
Olive Sibley
**W'SHINGT'N, D.C.**
**Loew's (15)**
3 Brown Buddies
Wilton & Weber
Ted Claire
**YONKERS, N. Y.**
**Loew's**
1st half (15-18)
Russell & Marconi
B Matthew Co
Raymond & Cav'ly
J & Kay Spangler
(One to fill)
2d half (19-21)
Greenele & Rogers
Sammy Cohen
Marino & Mona Rv
(Two to fill)

## Picture Theatres

**NEW YORK CITY**
**Capitol (7)**
"Variety Rev"
Gordon Reed & K
Jerry Coe
Miles & Kover
Jack Reid
Rudy Mason
Hale Co
"Politics"
**Paramount (7)**
"Beaux Arts"
Arnold Johnson Bd
Fred Sanborn
Lax & Power
Young China
P'rcel'n Romancers
Albertina Rasch Co
'Huckleberry Finn'
**Roxy (7)**
Patricia Bowman
Geo Kiddon
Mazzoni & Keene
Alex'nd'r Ancharoff
Al Lewis
Barry & Fitzgibbon
Betty Froos
Carey Booth
John Weeple
'Y'g As You Feel'
**CHICAGO, ILL.**
**Oriental (14)**
Duke Ellington Bd
Ivy Anderson
4 Step Bros
"Reckless Hour"
**Paradise (14)**
"Closeups"
Al Kvale Bd
Frank Wilson
Franklyn D'Amore
Rae Ellis & LaRue
Lambert Ballet
"Smi'ing Lt"
**Tivoli (14)**
"Songs on Parade"
F Masters Bd
Stan Kavanaugh
Lambert Ballet
"Smiling Lt"
**BOSTON, MASS.**
**Metropolitan (14)**
Horace Heidt Co
**BUFFALO, N. Y.**
**Hippodrome (7)**
Harry Langdon
"Five and Ten"
**Shea's (14)**
"Rio Rosa"
Bert Gordon
Vera Kingston
Theo Enrica & N
Wilfred Du Bois
(7)
'G'd Time Charlie'
Don Barclay
Audrey Wykoff
Senorita Carita
Van Cello
Sidney Stone
Bines Tr
**CLEVELAND, O.**
**State (7)**
"Get Set"
Dave Schooler
3 Swifts
3 Jacks
Phelps 2
"Hush Money"
**DETROIT, MICH.**
**Fisher (7)**
Alice White
"Reckless Hour"
**Fox (7)**
"Carmen-Esque"
Stan Meyers
"Transatlantic"
**Michigan (14)**
"Little Rev"
Nan Halperin
4 Mullen Sis
Chester Hale Co
(7)
"On Ze Boulevard"
Eddie Bruce
Rodion Dancers
Sammy Teddy & R
Morris Lloyd
Nita Carroll
**J'RS'Y CITY, N. J.**
**Stanley (14)**
Arnold Johnson Bd
(7)
"Petite Frolics"
Marty May
Jean Carroll
Maria Samson
5 Hot Shots
Dalta Denny
Canadien Rockets
**PHILADELPHIA**
**Mastbaum (14)**
"Petite Frolics"
Marty May
Jean Carroll
Maria Samson
5 Hot Shots
Dalta Denny
Canadien Rockets
(7)
"1 Arabian Night"
Norman Frescott
Ashley Page
Atlas La Marr & B
King Sis
Foster Co
**PITTSBURGH, PA.**
**Penn (7)**
"Rev Moderne"
Rome & Gaut
Douglas Stanbury
Don Cummings
Ivan Triesalt
Chester Hale Co
**Stanley (14)**
"G'd Time Charlie"
Don Barclay
Audrey Wykoff
Senorita Carita
Van Cello
Sidney Stone
Bines Tr
(7)
"Little Rev"
Nan Halperin
4 Mullen Sis
Chester Hale Co
**PR'VID'NCE, R. I.**
**Fay's (7)**
Irene Vermillion
On-Wah Tr
Yorke & Go'die
Equine Wonders
Whitehead & C
'Their Mad M'm'nt'
**H'LYW'D, CALIF.**
**Pantages (13)**
'Stars of Yesterday'
Corinne Co
Tom Kelly
Rice & Cady
Sylvia & Joyce
Cho Cho
Freddie Ford
George Harrison Co
Alexander & Evelyn
**L'S ANG'L'S, CAL.**
**Loew's State (12)**
'Rhymes in R'thm'
Schichtles W'ettes
Twinkle Twins
O'Rourke & Wilcox
Sunkist Ens
**MILW'KEE, WIS.**
**Wisconsin (14)**
"3 Big Figures" I
5 Jansleys
Haline Francis
Harold Stanton
Muriel Gardner
Sunkist Ens
**M'POLIS, MINN.**
**Minnesota (14)**
"Vacation Days" I
Miss Zelda Santley
3 Jacks & Queen
Lee & Ralph
Kirk & Lawrence
Kathleen Kay
Sunkist Ens
**NEW HAVEN, CT.**
**Palace (14)**
"Carnival" I
Raynor Lehr
Danny Small Co
Adams Sis
Chief Clear Sky
Kanazawa Tr
**S'N F'RISCO, CAL.**
**Fox (13)**
"About Town" I
T & A Waldman
Max's Gang
Ben Dova
Paul Olsen
Joe Pasco
Sunkist Ens
**SAN JOSE, CALIF.**
**California**
2d half (16-19)
"Black & White" I
Clifton & Brent
Rector & Doreen
Dolly Kramer
Rose Glesby
Marie Le Flohic
Margaret A Head
Sunkist Ens
**SP'GF'ELD, MASS.**
**Fox Poli (14)**
"Broken Dolls" I
C Bennington Bd
Mowatt & Hardy
Huff & Huff
Franklin Record
Sunkist Ens
**TOLEDO, O.**
**Paramount (14)**
"Exotique" I
Eno Tr
Grauman Hess & V
Claudia Coleman
Ramon & Virginia

**TWINKLE TWINS**
Open on a
Fanchon & Marco Tour
Shortly
Placed by
LEDDY & SMITH

Teddy the Bear
The Andressens
Cropley & Violet
Strange Man
Carla Torney Girls
**N. ORLEANS, LA.**
**Loew's State (14)**
"Golden West" I
Harriett Hutchins
Allen Riker
Bee Ho Gray Co
Ch'f Eagle Feather
Valerie Wade
Albertina Rasch Co
**OAKLAND, CAL.**
**Oakland (13)**
'M'd'n Minstrels' I'
Harry Jolson
Orren & Monte
Harry Van Fossen
Jack Russell
Mark Nelson
Esther Campbell
Sunkist Ens
**PHILADELPHIA**
**Fox (14)**
"Pep" I
H'llyw'd Collegians
Dorothy Crooker
**PORTLAND, ORE.**
**Paramount (13)**
"Hot Java" I
Weston & Lyons
Armanda Chirot
Noree
Elmer Herling
**TORONTO, ONT.**
**Imperial (14)**
"Carmenesque" I
Melino & Davis
3 Matadors
Ray Saxe
Rose Valyda
Sunkist Ens
**UTICA, N. Y.**
**Avon (14)**
N S E W
Waldron & Harriet
Glen Dale
Elvira Tanzi
Helen O'Shea
Togo
Sunkist Ens
**VANCOUV'R, B. C.**
**Strand (14)**
"Hacienda" I
Sue Russell
Hinky & Dinky
Adriana
Doyle & Donnelly
3 Rhythm Girls
6 Gordonians
**W'SHINGT'N, D.C.**
**Fox (14)**
"Submarine" I
Radcliffe & Bob
Aerial Bartletts
Robert Cloy
Ward & Pinkie
Lea & Stuart

## Fanchon & Marco

**NEW YORK CITY**
**Academy**
1st half (14-17)
"Mickey Mouse" I
Mickey Mouse
3 Rolling Stones
Toots Novelle
Helen Petch
Chrissie & Daly
Louis & Cherie
Sunkist Ens
**Audubon**
2d half (18-20)
"Mickey Mouse" I
Mickey Mouse
3 Rolling Stones
Toots Novelle
Helen Petch
Chrissie & Daly
Louis & Cherie
Sunkist Ens
**ATLANTA, GA.**
**Fox (14)**
"Talent" Idea
Harry Savoy
**CHICAGO, ILL.**
**Chicago (14)**
"Tomorrow's Stars"
B'le, V'ica & W'ker
Mary Miles
Wanda Allen
Anderson & Allen
Zelma
Fern Dale
Buddy & Gretel
Harry Stockwall
Chiyo Kadematsu
Helen Ireland
Dorothy Welch
Theal Nelson
**Paradise (14)**
"Sketches" I
Allen & Canfield
Frankenberg Rev
L'berlegs Edwards
Duke Art
Mildred Perlee
Frank Hopkinson
Sunkist Ens

**JEROME MANN**
Stopping the show for RKO.
Wk. Aug. 15—RKO Riverside, Milwaukee, Wis.
Dir.: BERNARD BURKE-JACK CURTIS OFFICE.

Geo P Wilson
Jeanne Carr
6 Marinelli Girls
2 White Flashes
**BRIDGEP'RT, CT.**
**Fox Poli (14)**
"Russian Art" I
Bill Telaak
Bud Hanley
Olga & Mishka
Walters Duo
Mecha Bessoff Orch
Gabriel Soloduhn
Russian Ens
Eddie Kube
Kasil Wania
Dina Larina
**BROOKLYN, N. Y.**
**Fox (14)**
"Olympic Games"
Paul Remos
Hal Haig
Francia
S & V Jean Rooney
Sunkist Ens
**BUTTE, MONT.**
**Fox**
1st half (15-16)
"Dream House"
O'Donnell & Blair
Masters & G'thier
Peg-Leg Bates
Louise Glenn
Sunkist Ens
**Uptown (14)**
"Pastels" I
Allen & Canfield
L'berlegs Edwards
Duke Art
Mildred Perlee
Frank Hopkinson
Sunkist Ens
"Smiling Lieut."
**DETROIT, MICH.**
**Fox (14)**
Round the World I
H & Frances Usher
Nord & Jeanne
Tex Morrisey Co
Phyllis DuBarry
Globe Trotters
**FRESNO, CALIF.**
**Wilson**
1st half (13-15)
"Black & White" I
Clifton & Brent
Rector & Doreen
Dolly Kramer
Rose Glesby
Marie Le Flohic
Margaretalice Head
Sunkist Ens
**HARTFORD, CT.**
**Capitol**
"Varieties" II
Sully & Thomas
Norman Thomas 5
Baker, Dove, Allen
4 Aces & Queen

EXCLUSIVELY DESIGNED GARMENTS FOR GENTLEMEN
**BEN ROCKE**
1632 B'way, at 50th St., N. Y. City

3 Samuels Bros
Vincent Yerro
Sunkist Ens
**SAN DIEGO, CAL.**
**Fox (13)**
"5 Races" I
Frank Jenks
Steve Moroni
Sunkist Ens
**W'RC'ST'R, MASS.**
**Palace (14)**
"Gt Raymond" I
Sunkist Ens

## LONDON

Week Aug. 10

**BRIXTON**
**Astoria**
"For the Defense"
"Head's Up"
Terry's 24 Babes
Anton's Bd
**FINSBURY PARK**
"For the Defense"
"Heads Up"
Herschel Henlere
Michael Dore
**OLD KENT ROAD**
"For the Defense"
"Heads Up"
"Heads Up"
Eddie Peabody
**CARLTON**
Dore's Viennese Or
"Smiling Lt"
**FINSBURY PARK**
**Empire**
Alexander & Mose
Billy Bennett
**MANCHESTER**
**Paramount**
"Monte Carlo"
Myrio & Desha
Karen Jensen

Dependable
**DRUM DOINGS**
Decidedly Different
JACK POWELL
Dir.: LEDDY & SMITH

Billy Cotton Bd
**STREATHAM**
"For the Defense"
**NEW CROSS**
**Empire**
'Stars Never Fail to Shine"

## Provincial

**BIRMINGHAM**
**Empire**
Ella Retford
Wilkie Bard
Scot Sanders
Terry & Yorke
Head Twins
Vivian Foster
Henger Bros
The Moonshiners
**BRADFORD**
**Alhambra**
Howard Rogers
2 Especials
Big 4
Byden Currie
Little Doreen
O'Gorman Bros
Los Olwars
**CARDIFF**
**Empire**
Jose Collins
Griff
Dan Reyner
Laurance Glen
Rupert Ingalese
Wynette & Leslie
Herskind
Alveretti
Mumming Birds
**EDINBURGH**
**Empire**
Moran Sis & M
Dudley Dale
Gintaro
Jack Wynne
Derickson & Brown
Mai & Drina
Daimler & Edie
Van de Pecars
**LEEDS**
**Empire**
Samson
Kiraku Bros
De Haven & Pace
Peel & Curtis
"Skeets" Martin
Toby Family
Flying Potters
Williams & Aldes
**NEWPORT**
**Empire**
Scott & Whaley

(Continued on page 62)

# *Going Places*

## By Cecelia Ager

### Sylvia Sidney's Charm

Sylvia Sidney takes a big step forward in "An American Tragedy." It is she who gives the picture its most genuine moments. Her realness, her rare naturalness, overcoming direction that mistakes clumsy restraint for profundity, makes her share of the film alive. She's a sort new to pictures, but not a type, for there's no one else like her. Miss Sidney seems a child with a full, ripe figure, seemingly unaware of her potential allure. Her diction's crude, her acting as yet without polish, but she possesses the essentials of success.

She gives to Roberta Alden more intelligence, more force than Dreiser's own conception of his character, but she also gives her more reality and, therefore, more sympathy. Ponderous direction upon her first appearance in the picture has her applying for a job at the collar factory with the stupid inarticulateness usually associated with the old regime Russian peasants, creating only surprise that she got the job. And it's no mean factory either. The rest of the factory girls are certainly wasting their time, stamping collars way up New York State. With their looks and graces they could well be dwelling in metropolitan pent houses.

Hollywood contributes another one of its remarkable "society" girls, Frances Dee, who plays Sondra. The Best People in Lycurgus must be in a bad way, when one of their most high born belles expresses allure by pulling her hair over her face abandondedly and proffering gardenias to the boy she's after. Though she's dressed with esprit, particularly in her white linen pyjamas, criss-crossed interestingly with colored tape, her methods for ensnaring men are provincial and clumsy. Her characterization is correctly shallow, but perhaps because of the heavily brooding spirit that weighs down the picture.

Lucille La Verne has little opportunity as Mrs. Griffiths, since the first part of the original story, wherein she dominates her son's early environment, does not appear in the picture. Her voice is resounding in prayer, but what sort of woman she is and why isn't planted.

### Girls Who Ruffle Boys

Little girls should play with their dolls, practice the piano or do anything to keep themselves out of boy pictures like "Huckleberry Finn." Little girls have a way of spreading their own self-consciousness among the little boys in the cast. No matter how little, they are actresses first and little girls afterwards, whereas little boys can keep right on being little boys in front of the camera.

One thing essential to the enjoyment of kid pictures is naturalness on the part of the cast, and little girls have an insidious way of threatening the skilfully normal behaviour of small boys with their contagious affectation. As if their own propensities for artificiality wasn't annoying enough, the writers of kid pictures make matters worse by surrounding little girls' screen roles with sickening love scenes that only succeed in embarrassing the audience.

The grown up ladies in "Huckleberry Finn" do a lot to redeem the sex, however. Jane Darwell is a splendid Widow Douglas, kindly, careful to restrain her affection for Huck because she knows how sentimental display would alienate him, wise in understanding of children. The lady school teacher, too, does a fine bit, grandly leading her class in singing, conducting the song absent-mindedly with a ruler in the distracted manner peculiar to spinster school marms.

Charlotte V. Henry, the girl whose sweetness breaks down Huck's antipathy to girls, keeps herself well in check so as not to turn into a Little Eva. Doris Short, her unyielding little sister, really belongs in the picture, for she's just as contemptuous of little boys as the little boys pretend to be of little girls.

### Paramount's Staging

The Paramount stage show wasn't very thoughtful of all the youngsters who are coming to the theatre this week to see "Huckleberry Finn." Save for the troupe of Chinese equilibrists, Young China and a mad xylophone player, Fred Sanborn, there's nothing to appeal to childish imaginations. Now, if the Chinese opening, with the stage set in replica of red lacquer and jade carvings, enlivened by the Albertina Rasch troupe dressed in black oilcloth, silver kimonos and seductive in long black silk stockings, had only disgorged a Chinese magician, that would have made the children genuinely happy, instead of just nicely patient for the picture to begin.

Young China's assortment of uncanny child balancers entertain them but they look so abnormal in the tortuous positions they assume, the children will say to themselves that the Chinese always were a funny race, and let it go at that.

Finale, a French porcelain clock set as a background for an adagio quartet, The Porcelain Romancers, is very pretty, but youngsters don't grow ecstatic over delicate beauty and male adagio dancers disguised as French courtiers, or excited about a toe ballet with ladies dressed in rose velvet and ruffled bouffant dresses topped with high white Mme. Pompadour wigs. They'll admire the grit of the girl adagio dancer in white leotards and white powdered wig, smiling bravely as she's thrown through the air.

### Mother Sans the Rocker

Pictures such as "The Star Witness" best accomplish their purpose with stock characters, people as easy to recognize as the labeled figures in political cartoons. They've got to react to situations in the expected way.

Frances Starr is cast as the mother in "The Star Witness," and so she's all that "mother" means in the popular American conception. True, she does not wear a shawl nor is her hair gray and parted madonna-like in the middle, but there's such patience about her, such maternal devotion, such sweet resignation, that her comparative youth can be overlooked. Nothing ruffles the even tenor of her remarkable disposition.

She bakes a cake and doesn't mind the heat of the kitchen. Her small sons squabble over who gets first lick at the frosting spoon and she smiles at them indulgently. When her husband's late for dinner, she doesn't get mad nor complain that the food will spoil standing, but just waits anxiously, hoping nothing's happened to him. When her beauteous daughter, Sally Blane, comes home from work, mother doesn't press her immediately into service, doesn't suggest she set the table, doesn't even question her about what's going on at the office. No, Miss Starr is the true mother-song mother, the bulwark of the family, upholding their father to the children and the children to their father.

Maybe too good to be true, but just right in winning audience sympathy in this example of gang rule's threat to an innocent bystanding family. The more glorified her characterization, the more hideous seems the fate gangdom visits upon her. She's too noble to suffer such tragedy, and that makes the tragedy all the more unjust, all the more undeserved, as the picture goes on, thus fortified, to prove its point.

### Roxy's Changing Ways

What's come over the Roxy? Is it really daring to suggest now that there's some mysterious connection between weddings and babies? After years of subscribing to the stork theory it's kicking the old bird out. Now the patrons don't know what to believe. The very least the Roxy could have done was to prepare them for this revolutionary new attitude. The finale of "Songs of Love" presentation is a wedding, and actually, before the minister can even complete the ceremony, a transparency lights up and there for all to see stands a man and woman leaning fondly over a lace trimmed bassinet! They can't be keeping coal in it. It must be a baby!

They sing Songs of Love every place they can think of, in An Old Fashioned Garden (ballet corps as white peacocks with silver bodies), at the Bowery (Mazzoni and Keene doing a punishing Apache dance dressed as Bowery sweethearts) in A Garden of Today (Barry and Keene, the lovely tall blond girl smartly willowy in sheer white crepe made long and circular at the hem, with a little black sequin cap on her head), on top of a grand piano (Betty Froos singing blues in white with a taffeta cape collar and a red sash) and at last for Wedding Bells, where the Roxy makes its astounding about-face.

As for the Roxyettes, they acquit themselves magnificently in their military drill to climax the overture, "Marches of the World."

### Young But Not Lively

Will Rogers has a couple of sons in "Young As You Feel" who scorn their father's business, meat packing. One likes golf, the other modern art. They both have a pretty free hand with father's millions, therefore it's hard to understand why they all live together in such a stuffy house.

It's hard to understand why Will should want to emulate the younger generation, too. Their parties, in this picture, are so staid, the guests so deliberate about their gaiety. Those Gregson girls, Lucille Browne and Rosalie Roy, who come from Texas at Will's behest to marry his boys, they're supposed to be the finest flower of the Bright Young Things. They talk only in "the sophisticated manner" and have such trouble doing it, the phrases fall so heavily from their young lips. It's terribly hard to be a member of the sophisticated younger generation. They have to work at it every single minute. They must get frightfully exhausted. The audience does, just listening.

Fifi Dorsay once again is a Fransh charmer, this time with good intentions, and perhaps for that reason, this time a bit of a bore. She gurgles through the picture in a Hollywood French hot stuff wardrobe, black and white severely contrasted, with the piece de resistance a black lace supposedly enticingly fitted sheath scrolled with sequins and flounced with transparent black tulle. Just in case this strange confection should fail to get over the point, there are long black mits of the same lace and sequins. Her tiny white dog is a darling. It looks just like a white Winnie the Pooh.

### Frances Shelley, Per Siegel

For several months Broadway's been hearing rumors of a new singer who would take the bored old street and shake it into attention. She was being readied for her debut by Al Siegel, and Broadway tradition has it that when Al Siegel trains a singer it's because she has something worthy his Svengalian course.

She can be seen and heard at the State this week, Frances Shelley by name, on No. 2 in a house far too large for her friendly, modest voice. A tough spot in a tough house, and yet Miss Shelley's natural manner and easy way of getting into a song, then going along with it to its climax, augurs well for her Broadway future. Her voice is true; it can hang on to a note for a goodly while, and she uses it with nice spontaneity, despite the studied style of her arrangements. She has a pleasant smile and looks well in her clothes, a white ankle-length ensemble simply molded to her tall figure, worn with a fur-banded scarf wrapped across her shoulders in classic drape. Perhaps the rumors that preceded her advent were a little extravagant. It will take a smaller house to settle the question.

Abe Reynolds' lady assistant deserves more billing than just "and Co." She works hard throughout the sketch and even tosses in a song and a bit of a Spanish dance to show the audience what a spicy creature she's playing. Sartorially above the average in comic skits, she holds a pink ostrich trimmed evening wrap snugly across her hips for the first scene. Underneath is a white crepe dress with a bib U-shaped collar and white flowers at the waist.

### Dangerous to Flaps

The tricks that Mary Brian as a chorus girl uses to ensnare her playboy millionaire in "The Runaround" had better not be taken too seriously by the gals in the audience. Miss Brian is successful with them all right, but that's because the picture has so little to do with real chorus girls, real playboy millionaires, in fact with real life in general.

The whole thing is completely unconvincing. Playboys who view marriage with disdain are not going to take it up just because the girl's father (who isn't really her father at all but a vaudeville actor trying to help her trap the guy) believes them married. Certain recognized elements of truth are in the story, and that's where the danger lies to credulous flaps. They've been taught it's always wisest never to say good night with kisses the first time, and Miss Brian doesn't.

But when she cooks dinner for the man, she gives him fruit cocktail, dry sliced chicken, aspic salad, items sure to alienate any male with red blood in his veins. There's another one of those chorus girl-playboy orgy suppers, with everybody wildly dancing the Charleston and Marie Prevost paired off with an old white haired dodderer, a situation always considered uproariously funny in pictures. Miss Prevost can't help getting plump, she does so much eating for comedy here. She registers accurately and effortlessly as a gold digger who's absolutely serious about her art, and solely responsible for the

(Continued on page 62)

## Did You Know That—

Roy Royston has returned from England after an absence of about three years....A new co-operative show is starting at the Vanderbilt theatre under the auspices of Walter Brooks and Joe De Milt.... John Hundley may join the cast of one of the new Shubert productions....They say that Elsie Janis is writing the story of her life....Ruth Roland is back in Hollywood....Ted Wing and Frances Grant are divorced after a separation of several years....Inez Courtney is week ending on yachts these days....Sam Jaffey, of "Grand Hotel," is recognized everywhere he goes....Rosetta Duncan will be the only important woman in the cast of a new show being put forth by Major White....The very deluxe ladies of the ensemble, in the new Earl Carroll show, were all having their feet attended to, polished, etc., by chiropodists during rehearsal the other day....They do say as how each one will be provided with dressing room telephones, in the new theatre....No salaries could be given the cast of "Shoot the Works," Saturday night, the gross receipts not being sufficient....A huge sign with eight amplifiers broadcasts radio programs constantly on the boardwalk of Coney Island....Apparently the first talking sign....Dorothy Brenner looked sweet dining out the other night, in a blue and white printed chiffon suit and white accessories.

# Catalina by Yacht

## By Grace Green

Hollywood, Aug. 8.

The Harry Richman yachting tragedy was a main topic of conversation among the Catalina yachting weekenders. To see some of these palatial craft, which have made California-to-Honolulu dashes, it is difficult to imagine anything as serious as the Richman explosion happening.

The weekend yachting idea is a grand but very expensive idea. Whether or not Harold B. Franklin invites four people down for weekend guests he has a sweet bill just to keep the larder filled and everything running smoothly aboard his swelegant vessel, the "Seaward," whose crew of six has been with Cecil B. DeMille for 11 years. Mr. Franklin has chartered the De Mille yacht for this season.

Across the bay, Louis B. Mayer's "Invader" needs a crew almost twice as big and Howard Hughes' yacht is manned by 30 even when on a short cruise. And Harry Cohn gets even with everybody via a big sloop which is the champion roller of the fleet.

The weekend custom is also visiting one another's boats; to chat a little, to sip a little and to play casino or hearts a whole lot.

You sense immediately that nobody wants to talk about business when away on the weekend, but before they realize it they start gabbing about the newest disk records or radio favorites, and they're into picture problems in no time.

Saturday night everybody sheds the swimming suit and knock-around panties to go into Avalon for the picture show at the new casino, or to dance on the top floor. It's the most spacious ballroom you ever saw and everything is free. The idea of William Wrigley, who owns the entire Catalina Island, is to bring the folks to dance for nothing but he collects on the boat transportation, of course, not to mention the concessions and everything else.

Nobody dresses for yachting parties excepting the Commodore or the Admiral of the yacht, who go in for all the trimmin's.

The speedboat that practically every yacht carries, as a tender, is the biggest thrill. Going over the water at 25 or 30 miles per feels like 60.

### Advance Dress Creations

If it keeps up the fashion scouts will come to Hollywood instead of Paris for the Chanel creations. Right now, although this is a secret, the new Gabrielle Chanel creations are completed at United Artists whereas not until mid-August do they usually hold the couturier displays in Paris.

Mlle. Chanel designed the gowns, about 40 of them, for "Greeks Had a Word For It," and they do say she knows clothes and women by making the gowns fit the characters.

This ended arguments between Ina Claire, Carole Lombard and Joan Blondell who will now do the three leading "Greeks."

### Paramount's Good Unit

"Garden of Youth" stage unit, at the Paramount, is a peach. Both the featured acts and the chorus are smartly and freshly costumed.

The girls looked lovely in light green chiffon frocks over full circular gold cloth skirts that were faced with tiny blue, orange and orchid ruffles which showed beautifully when they did a sort of a French can-can.

June Knight with her dancing partner, Jack Holland, made a striking picture whirling 'round in a diaphanous gown with shades of white, orange and red flashily blended. Vivian Fay's impressions of "St. Louis Blues" was par excellent. Her light blue chiffon gown was most alluring.

### Socially

Dell and Louis Cohen celebrated their 17th anniversary with a party at their lovely home. Among the guests were the Durante boys, Charlie Judels, the Bryant Washburns, John and Phyllis Medbury, Howard Sheehan and others.

Betty Compson looked cute in a tiny white hat and a wolly coat at Catalina.

Cecil Cunningham bought Harpo Marx's small town car.

Joe Lewis loves the California sunshine and heat.

Ann Franklin looked lovely in blue and white jersey pajamas which had a cunning little Eton jacket.

## MARRIAGES

Kathleen Bering (non pro) to Creighton Hale in Los Angeles, Aug 1. Groom is a film actor.

Thelma Williams to John Schoeppel (Warner Bros.) recently.

Margaret Anna De Graff, concert and radio harpist, to Frederick J. Herron, at Lake George, N. Y., July 25.

Lena Thomas, "Miss Memphis" of 1931, now in "Follies," to William Steuer, salesman, July 31.

Louise Cody (non-pro), to Hal Taylor, in Los Angeles, Aug. 8. Groom is with Georgie Stoll's band at the Carthay Circle.

Boris Reidel, in charge of the Publix-B. & K. poster department, to Lila Reitberger, in Chicago on Aug. 1.

Grace La Vitske to Max L. Hassman at Los Angeles, Aug. 9. She is a picture player and he a director.

Harry Delmar married to Lucille June, July 31.

## BIRTHS

Mr. and Mrs. Harold de Becker, son, July 31. Father is with "Once in a Life Time." Mother last appeared in "The Silent Witness."

# The Heat!

## New York's Record for Humidity and High Temperatures This Summer

Protracted heat siege, called by showmen the worst in memory, has nearly laid show business in all its ramifications so low depression is no longer thought of. It's now the heat, not economic blues. With everyone hoping for respite after the epidemic of heat from the middle of June and unprecedented for New York, show business is merely going along.

Actors—those that are fortunate enough to work even in the heat—are sweltering on the job. In the offices it's bad, with energy sapped by the curiously long torrid spell on the town.

Never so many postponements of appointments, deals, get-togethers, etc. Everything put off until tomorrow on the chance a breeze will come up or by that time the heat streak will break.

**Too Cold, Too**

Within the past two weeks the big film companies have begun shutting down early in the afternoon without exception. Paramount several days last week, including Friday, one of the busy week days, shut at 1 o'clock.

Even the frigidaire theatres are losing their appeal because people hate to face the heat again after coming out.

Last summer New York thought it had a bad spell with between three and four weeks of equator weather and humidity, that topping anything of previous years. That was nothing compared to now, all of show biz admits.

## Jeanette Journee Ends Life by Gas; Saves Birds

Jeanette Journee, 30, former vaudevillian, wife of Henri Journee, former pugilist, who ended her life by gas in her apartment, 247 West 76th street, was buried during the week by her family at Noble, Ill.

Henri Journee trained Carpentier and other well known scrappers. He was rated an excellent middleweight and had fought Georgie Ward, with other good boxers. During his fistic battles over here he met Jeanette Jones. She was a dancer.

The romance began and soon ended by Journee marrying Jeanette. Jeanette quit the stage and Henri quit the four square ring. They established a beauty shop in the Bronx that proved a failure.

Virtually penniless, Henri obtained a job as a hairdresser, in a beauty shop at 72nd street and Broadway. Jeanette was heartbroken over their business loss and the opposition of her father, C. L. Jones, a physician of Noble, Ill., to her marriage made her moody.

After obtaining work, Henri told Jeanette he would soon have enough for her to return to her home and see her folks.

"I'll never go alone. I will wait until you save enough and we will buy a small auto and motor there," said Jeanette. Henri agreed to this.

**Saved Birds**

Returning home at noon with his arms filled with foodstuffs for lunch, he was unable to enter. The door was chained. He feared the worst and got Patrolman Bart Druery of the West 68th street station. They forced the door.

In the kitchenette was Jeanette, dead. Four jets of the gas range were turned on full. Jimmy, a marmoset that made the kitchenette its playroom, was in an adjoining room. Two love birds, Jeanne and Henri, were removed to a place of safety before Jeanette ended her life.

Jeanette left two messages; one to her husband and the other to her father. She scored her father in the letter for opposing the marriage. In the letter to her husband she asked forgiveness.

## Roxy Room in Hospital

Springfield, Mass., Aug. 10.

Named the Roxy Room, in honor of S. L. Rothafel, the new occupational therapy addition to the Shrine Hospital for Crippled Children was dedicated at a ceremony attended by Rothafel. The addition was made possible by funds raised by the Roxy concert in City Hall last winter when Rothafel gave the services of his radio gang.

A report read said $11,724 profit resulted from the concert.

## Killer of Burlesque Girl Sent Away to Asylum

Leander G. Strepp, gassed war veteran who murdered Blanche Somers, burlesque soubrette, last April by choking her, was committed to the State Criminal Insane Asylumn at Mattewan by Judge Freschi in General Sessions. Strepp had been indicted for murder in the first degree and when about to go to trial his attorneys moved for an examination of his mental condition.

Strepp had been living with Miss Somers at a hotel when the murder occurred. The woman had been with a burlesque company at the People's theatre. A quarrel arose between the couple as to who should pay the room rent and the strangling of Miss Somers resulted. Strepp, after the killing, surrendered to the police, calmly telling them, "I've just bumped off my sweetheart."

## MORE BANK FAILURES CATCH SHOW PEOPLE

When three New York mid-town banks were ordered closed last week by the state banking department, Broadway further felt the pinch of the depression. American Union Bank and the Times Square Trust Co. were the institutions which affected the show people. Last season the collapse of the Bank of the United States and the Chelsea had similar results.

The American Union had for its principal and controlling stockholder the late Joe Leblang. The Leblang ticket enterprises carried appreciable deposits but the closing principally affects his estate, and his widow, Mrs. Tillie Leblang, the principal legatee. The stock dropped from $40 a share to a bid of from $4 to $5. At one time it sold for as high as $373 per share and was then split up on the basis of $100.

The Times Square Trust had William Morris, senior and junior, among its leading investors. The Junior Morris is on its board of directors. Abe Lastfogel and others in the Morris agency are also the possessors of stock.

Paul Taussig, the steamship agent is also reported heavily involved.

It is understood the Times Square stock was bought originally at $160 a share. It rose to $298 and was then split up. Monday the bid price was between $1 and $1.50 per share.

## PHONEY BOOZE SELLERS

### Expected Victim to Buy $1,200 Worth of Ginger Ale

More than a score of victims who have been fleeced by the phoney liquor "mob" came to West Side Court to see if they could identify two defendants held for the Grand Jury as the pair who swindled them.

Defendants gave their names as Max Burodetsky, 31, salesman, of the President Hotel and Carl Seeman, 34, salesman, 1,463 Jerome avenue, Bronx. Seeman has a long police record. Magistrate McGee, at the request of John McGowan, assistant district attorney, held Seeman without bail for the Grand Jury.

Both were arrested at 74th street and Riverside drive in a taxicab. The machine was laden with supposedly good liquor that was to cost $1,200. Examination of the stuff showed it to be ginger ale.

Francis Vanderveer, 60 East 42nd street, manager of trust estates, received a cablegram purporting to come from his client, Wadsworth R. Lewis, 23 West 52nd street. Lewis is in Europe. The phoney cablegram stated that Vanderveer was to purchase the "merchandise" for $1,200. Vanderveer was skeptic. He communicated with the Western Union and learned the cable was spurious.

The racketeers phoned. An appointment was kept. Detectives Arnold, Reilly and Kirwin secreted themselves near the meeting place. Vanderveer had newspaper packed as if he had $1,200.

When the cab arrived with ginger ale, the sleuths bagged the pair. They were chock full of denials and alibis. Other victims that came to court were unable to identify the pair.

## Zittenfeld Charged With Selling Bogus Accounts

Julius Zittenfeld, 37, father of the Zittenfeld twins, swimmers, and residing at 142 West 93d street, was held in West Side Court for the action of the Grand Jury. Bail of $2,500 was fixed by the Court. A surety company furnished the bond.

Zittenfeld was taken to Police Headquarters and fingerprinted by Warrant Officer Daniel Fisher, of West Side Court. Following the fingerprinting which showed that the defendant had no police record the court then set bail.

The defendant was brought to court on a summons by Alexander Korn, 11 West 42d street and an officer of the Silver Discount Co., of the 42d street address. Korn alleged in his affidavit that he gave the parent of the aquatic stars $2,000 on Dec. 1, 1930, upon a statement made by Zittenfeld that he had some excellent accounts to sell.

Korn alleged that Zittenfeld showed him receipts of merchandise shipped. Korn asserted he believed the receipts forgeries. He stated he investigated the accounts and found statements by Zittenfeld to be untrue.

Attorney appeared for Korn and asked $10,000 bail. He stated the amount received by Zittenfeld will reach almost $9,000. Zittenfeld smiled wanly over the allegations.

## Blue Pajamas in Wrong But Waiter Inside Said Heat Made Him Wander

Hans Musch, waiter in the Biltmore Hotel, and living at 61 West 70th street, told Magistrate McGee in West Side Court that he was innocent of stepping into a lady's boudoir and examining her pink lingerie. Musch is 35.

Harriet Heath, robust blonde who lives on the same floor with the waiter, was awakened, she said, by Hans appearing in her bedroom in his blue pajamas. He went directly to her lingerie closet and began to observe her pretty clothes.

"Get out of there or I will crown you with this milk bottle," Harriet yelled. Hans fled. "I got up, Judge. Armed with the milk bottle I gave chase after the defendant. He raced to his room. I told my husband George to get a cop. He did," said Mrs. Heath.

Patrolman James Hayden of West 68th Street arrived and found Mrs. Heath outside of the locked door of Hans with a milk bottle in her hand.

"He's in here, officer," said Mrs. Heath. The cop rapped on Hans' door with his baton. Hans emerged attired in his blue pajamas. Hayden locked him up after Hans got dressed.

"Judge, I didn't go in the lady's room. I was awakened by the heat and the casters of a bed overhead. Her door was opened and I peered in," said the waiter.

Eli Johnson, Hans' attorney, moved for a dismissal of the charge of disorderly conduct against Hans. It was dismissed.

## VICK, GUILTY, SORRY, HE SAID—COP PAID $3 FINE

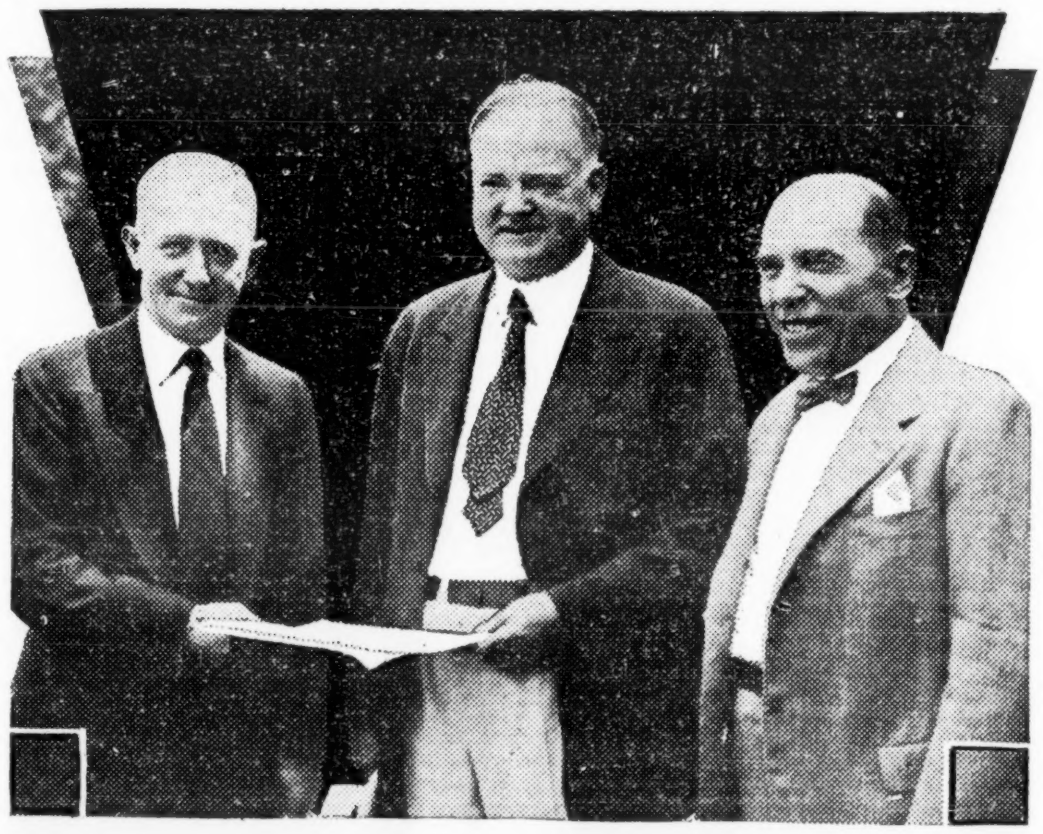
James Vick, self styled theatrical producer, 151 West 47th street, was fined $3 in West Side Court. Vick was arrested by Hyman Levine, detective, attached to Police headquarters.

Levine was on his way home when he found Vick reviling and beating Sam Krauss of the Coolidge Hotel.

The assault took place near the Coolidge, said Levine. The latter broke up the fisticuffs and told Vick to go home.

Levine showed his badge. Vick said he would get Judge Seabury after Levine. Soon a throng gathered and Levine arrested Vick.

Vick spent the night in the station. In West Side Court he pleaded guilty and said he was sorry. The Court imposed the fine. Vick had no money. Levine paid his fine.



## Distinguished Americans

On the lawn of the White House. To the right of President Hoover is George M. Cohan, and on his left, Congressman Sol Bloom of New York.

They had been in conference over the national celebration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of George Washington. It is to occur next year.

Congressman Bloom is associate director of the committee in charge of the celebration.

## MONTREAL 40% TOURIST DROP

Montreal, Aug. 10.

Although the fact is sub-rosa, this summer mecca for tourists has been affected by the depression plenty.

For instance, the roof at the Mt. Royal hotel failed to open. That's the first time since the place was built, about 10 years ago. Business at the hotel is 40% under that of last summer.

Because of the liquor stores and so forth, Canada has had a growing draw for Americans. It is assumed the increasing number of speakeasies over there may have made Yanks ask themselves why go all the way to Moe-re-al?

## RKO'S BASEBALL LEAD

### Columbia Set Back by Loss to Fox Saturday

RKO baseball team leads the New York Picture Baseball League with a 1,000, due to the loss of a game by Columbia Saturday (8) to Fox. It was Columbia's first defeat in 10 starts and a hard battle, 5—4. RKO still has three games with the leaders in the league, each on succeedings Saturdays.

Games played last Saturday found RKO taking Pathe, 13 to 3. Warners lost to ERPI 8 to 3. RCA Photophone and National Theatres did not play.

**League Standings**

| | W. | L. | Pct. |
|---|---|---|---|
| RKO | 9 | 0 | 1.000 |
| Columbia | 9 | 1 | .900 |
| ERPI | 8 | 3 | .727 |
| Warner | 4 | 3 | .571 |
| Fox | 3 | 6 | .333 |
| Pathe | 2 | 8 | .200 |
| National Theatres | 2 | 8 | .200 |
| RCA Photophone | 0 | 8 | .000 |

## *Pashy Premiere*

(Continued from page 2)

snappy limousine? Our old friend, A. K. Swenson, the director of the picture. With him are two of the girls in the cast, Lily White and Yevette Scramme. Step right this way, A. K., and say a few words to the folks on the air tonight."

**Swenson's Confession**

Mr. Swenson: "Hello, frenz of Radioland. I'm glad to be here tonigh'. Fr a while I didn't think I was gonna make it, but . . ."

Miss Scramme: "You tellem, A. K. Say, who's steppin' on the train of my dress?"

Mr. Swenson: "Shut up a minute, you. I'm talkin' on the air. As I was sayin' . . .

Miss White: "C'mon, poppa, I wanna 'nother drinkie . . ."

Eldzell: "Ladies and gentlemen, you are listening to the world's premiere of the latest Malignant picture at the Padoga Theatre, Hollywood. That last party you just heard was—ha, ha!—just a little comedy skit—ha, ha!—written solely for this opening. Who is this we see approaching? None other than my old friend, Madame Matzos, the famous Servian tragedienne, who is in Hollywood to make a picture. Madame, will you kindly step to the microphone and say a few words to your friends of the radio audience?"

**Dry Matzos**

Madame Matzos: "To be with you here tonight I am so glad, friends of the radio. I would enjoy it bettair if here with me you would also be. Success I wish to the producer, Mons. Eppis und so, as we say in far off Servia, good night, my radio poblic. Come, Fritz."

Eldzell: "That was Madame Matzos, friends of Radioland, just saying a few words of greeting from the forecourt of the Padoga Theatre, Hollywood, where the new Malignant production, 'Coats for Women,' an Eppis epic, is having its world premiere tonight.

"Well, well, well, this is a surprise, friends of Radioland. Guess who is approaching the mike now? That famous New York comedian and pantomimist, Mr. Marco Harps. Mr. Harps! Hey, Mr. Harps! Someone catch him! Bring Mr. Harps here. Ah, Mr. Harps, I want you to say a few words to your friends of Radioland. Step up to the mike and say a few words."

Mr. Harps: "Dear friends of Radioland . . . Nuts!"

# 50c Got Banquet for Starving Pair; Manton Killed Self to Help Girl

On the days when Kevitt Manton and Opal Essant could scrape together 50 cents, they'd go over to Thompson's and dine deluxe on stew and coffee. Fifty cents just made it.

Manton would call for Miss Essant at her dingy side street hotel, and as they crossed Broadway, where once Miss Essant knew success as a dancer and Manton the fleeting glory of a leading man, Manton used to say to her, "Sweetheart, you're so lovely, you're so beautiful, if I weren't with you all you'd have to do is walk a couple of blocks to get a dozen invitations to dinner. You could get some new clothes. You could live in a decent place. I can't do anything for you, and here I am keeping you from other men able to take care of you. At least you'd be fed."

Two weeks ago Monday, Kevitt Manton secured a bottle of barbitol, askin to veronal, bought a container of coffee in which to dissolve it, and then went up to his room at the St. Paul hotel to die. Alarmed at his failure to call her, Miss Essant rushed over to his hotel. When he didn't answer his room phone, she demanded the passkey. At first it was refused her. In her frenzy of fear she threatened to walk the six flights to his room and batter down the door and then she got it. A bell boy accompanied her. As she drew near his room she heard the heavy breathing of an unconscious person. Manton had kept his promise to free her.

Six months of early rising to be in line at the 6th avenue employment agencies by 8:30; six months of unsuccessful efforts to find even one day's work, had done for him. He was an actor, but he didn't look for theatrical engagements. Too many other actors were also looking. He wanted to do anything—dishwashing, waiting on table, janitor service—but so were hordes of others who better looked the part. He was British. His English accent and well-tailored clothes did not encourage the employment agency men to send him out for menial labor.

### Emaciated

They took Manton to Roosevelt Hospital. The pitifully emaciated condition of his body moved even the inured-to-suffering hospital attaches. There wasn't a chance of it's being paid for, yet they placed him in a private room, worked over him day and night trying to save him to help Miss Essant and give her a happy ending for her four-day vigil at his bedside. But they could do nothing. Thursday night he died, never regaining consciousness. It was another two days until money was cabled by a brother to bury him, until Miss Essant and a lone man made up his last audience—a funeral cortege of two to follow him to his grave on Staten Island.

### Dug Up a Story

Then it was that the dailies got hold of the story. Suddenly, after months of being avoided—for they were just another pair of down-and-outers — people remembered them. Kevitt Manton—wasn't that the name of the man mixed up in that old Marjorie Rambeau case? At first Miss Essant denied it. He had told her often how he wanted it forgotten; Miss Rambeau had a good job in pictures. Why cause further embarrassment. But a zealous reporter dug out a photograph from his paper's morgue and so identified the body. Great feature stuff! Soup for the sobbies!

Wan from suffering the loss of the "finest man I've ever known, and I've known lots of men," Miss Essant then talked to reporters in the hope of getting for Manton the recognition she thinks is his due; not as the man in the Rambeau matter, but as a man of great courage, brave enough to die that his girl might have a better chance to survive. He wrote her a note before he swallowed the tablets to explain to her he "could not go away from you and live, and so he was going to end it all so that other men could come to your aid and buy you decent food."

### Flat Broke

Miss Essant, a slim blonde—slimmer now—talked, punctuating her story with nervous pats of her powder puff. She looked down at her tiny arched feet in scuffed blue kid pumps.

"You know, I used to have lovely clothes once, and rings, too. God, I

(Continued on Page 51)

## CHINK POTATO THROWER

### They Were Mashed and Delia Murtagh on Wrong End

Delia Murtagh, 25, waitress, 341 East 124th street, explained to Magistrate McGee in West Side Court that she does not relish having a dish of mashed potatoes thrown in her face, especially by a chink chef.

Delia summoned Sam Lung, diminutive Chinese chef, in a blue plate restaurant (Chinese) at 74 West 47th street. Lung was unable to explain his actions. He was accompanied by his boss who was unable to make himself clear.

Delia stated she had taken an order. The patron changed the order from mashed to fried potatoes. Delia took the sad news back to the chink chef. He became enraged, she said, and tossed the mashed spuds in her face.

"What did you do?" asked the court of Delia.

"Well you can imagine, judge. I kept him busy for a few minutes and he knew he was in a fight. However, I am not permitting a Chinese to throw potatoes in my face," stated the waitress.

The court was visibly angry. He demanded an explanation from Lung. He attempted one but failed. His boss tried to interpret what Lung was trying to say. But the boss was a failure.

Magistrate McGee cautioned Lung and told him if he was brought into court again on a similar charge he would go to jail. The court made Lung apologize to Delia and dismissed the summons.

## Sleuth Held Out Info From Court on Charge Against Peiping Inn

Murray Hulbert, former president of the Board of Aldermen and now a practising attorney declared in West Side Court that he would confer with Police Commissioner Mulrooney of the action of an inspector's detective whom he alleged was persecuting the operators of the Peiping Inn, Chinese restaurant in the basement of the Alamac Hotel.

George Wing, proprietor of the Inn, was charged with violating the Curfew Law. Detective Cohen stated he observed two women enter the restaurant at almost 4. a.m.

During the cross examination, Cohen stated he knew that the women were the wives of the defendant and an employee and that they were not patrons. The Court incensed, wanted to know why Cohen didn't disclose this to him. Cohen stated he was not asked.

Hulbert asserted the restaurant owner has been brought to court several times recently and it appeared to him as persecution. The Court asked Mr. Hulbert to forward him the letter he intended to send the Commissioner. The Court dismissed Wing.

## Tailor's Holler Means Trail for Realty Man

John F. Rowland, 45, theatrical real estate agent, will be placed on trial Wednesday (12) in Special Sessions on a charge of defrauding a tenant out of $252 in a lease transaction. Rowland is free under $500 bail.

Nathan Rapensky, tailor, charges Rowland with keeping the balance of $446 the former had given him as a deposit on a lease. When the defendant failed to return the money after the lease expired the arrest occurred.

Rowland is said to have negotiated numerous real estate deals on theatrical property both in this city and Chicago.

## FLAG DAY IN HARLEM

George Kelly, 23, ticket taker at a film house on 125th street, was given a suspended sentence in Special Sessions after pleading guilty to petty larceny.

Irving Brieman, owner of the theatre, caused Kelly's arrest Feb. 15 for stealing a banner worth $65 from the lobby.

## MABEL ELAINE'S CHOW

### Lost It in Speak—Wouldn't Prosecute in Court

Mabel Elaine, 35, vaudevillian, of 304 West 54th street, told Magistrate McGee in West Side Court that she desired to withdraw her complaint against Mark Harrigan, 23, 430 West 56th street, and James Clifford, 23, of 927 Columbus avenue. They were charged with felonious assault.

Miss Elaine on July 22 decided to quaff some beer. She repaired to a speak at 304 West 54th street and brought along her Chow dog. The boys in the speak played with the dog and began to teach it tricks.

Mabel was thirsty and quaffed some more beer. Pretty soon she wanted her Chow. It was gone.

"Your Honor, I lost my dog in the place. The defendants offered to get my dog for a reward. And when I protested I received a blow in the left eye," said Miss Elaine.

"I had to go to a doctor. That cost me $60. And I was forced to remain home from a week's engagement, and that cost more money. But the defendants have promised to make good. My dog was returned and while I will carry a nasty gash over the left eye the rest of my life I want to withdraw the charge."

John McGowan, assistant district attorney, bitterly opposed the withdrawal.

## BROTHERS' GOOD TIME ONLY COST PUBLICITY

George V. V. Brothers, broker, son of George N. Brothers, one of District Attorney Crain's chief aides and who gave his address as 25 Prospect place, went before the Grand Jury to tell how he was forced to sign four checks totaling $700 in an actor's apartment, 345 West 55th street, before able to quit the apartment.

Brothers, about 35, mild mannered and curt, refused to comment to newspapermen.

Three of the quintet were held for trial. The five defendants gave their names as Charles Dinnerstein, 26, 218 Barrett street, Brooklyn; Mrs. Elizabeth Kaylor, 32, hostess, 345 West 55th street; Bebe Lewis, 32, divorcee, 345 West 55th street.

Maurice Greenberg, 32, 1801 Stillwell avenue, Bronx, insurance broker, and Paul Vasco, 30, plumber, of 7 West 51st street, were discharged.

Brothers was unable to identify the latter pair. Greenberg was arrested at a bank where he sought to cash one of the four checks made out by Brothers. The bank notified Roger Meehan, detective sergeant, of West 47th street. Greenberg stated he got the check from Vasco. Vasco admitted this and said he received the check from Dinnerstein who had asked him to put it through his bank. Instead, Vasco gave it to Greenberg to ascertain its authenticity, he said.

### While Drinking

Brothers had been imbibing, asserted the cops. He met a night hawk cabbie who steered him to the 45th street address. Brothers was in the apartment occupied by Jay Wood, actor, now appearing at Atlantic City, the cops stated.

After being in the apartment a short while Brothers was given a bill for $700. He was told he drank a case of rum and otherwise enjoyed himself. Brothers protested. He sought to leave and avers that Dinnerstein began to apply lit matches to his fingertips.

Realizing the futility of his protests he made out the checks under duress, Brothers told Sergt. Meehan. As soon as he gained his liberty he notified Meehan. The latter put a stop on the checks and cautioned the bank to notify the police immediately.

Greenberg appeared with a check for $250, one of the four made out by Brothers. Greenberg explained where he got it and the quintet were soon rounded up.

Mrs. Kaylor has a police record. Dinnerstein, Kaylor and Mrs. Lewis were indicted, stated Assistant District Attorney John McGowan on the charge of attempted extortion.

Eli Johnson, attorney for Greenberg and Vasco, made the customary motion for their dismissal in West Side Court. Magistrate McGee granted it.

### Acquitted of Carrying Gun

Clyde Mathieu, 30, theatrical manager, was acquitted in Special Sessions of possessing a revolver. He had been arrested May 20.

Mathieu produced a permit in court.

# Polly Moran Swinging a Bag on B'way Without a Single Insult

"Guess I'm sliding backward. I've been slinging this bag on Broadway all the afternoon and no one insulted me.

"Tough, too, because I had my flying pigeons beautified for this eastern trip. Maybe I should have worn pajamas on Broadway. It's so long since I've been here I don't know what the boys like any more. At one time I knew what every agent thought of me, on and off."

That's a part of the new spiel Polly Moran is using in New York. She reached here last Saturday morning. The first move made by Polly was to buy a front row seat at the Palace for the matinee that day.

"I hope Heltz doesn't see me," said Polly. "He may call on me."

Polly is wearing her hat from pictures, so that if anyone finally does ask her to autograph a cigaret case they'll know it's the genuine Polly Moran.

Polly coyly asked if her picture, "Politics," with Marie Dressler, was at the Capitol. "You know, I open at the Capitol next Friday (14), don't I, Bess?"

Bess is Bessie Mack, publicist for the Capitol, who started out to guard Pol against chasers.

"I'll get a break yet," said Polly. "I'm going to give the guys that ingenue business. I did it to one guy, and just when I thought he was landed, the mugg made a swipe at me that might have cost me another set of teeth."

### Pin a Prop

Polly says it's four years since she was last in New York. Now she's under a five-year optional contract with Metro. Polly has just finished her first five-year contract with the same company.

Wearing a diamond pin on her dress that looked as big as the electric sign at the Capitol, Polly says if anyone tries to make a touch on the strength of the pin she tells them it's a prop.

Polly's reported salary on this in person trip is $3,500 a week. The last time around she was at the Jefferson at $400 (when Polly was known as Sheriff Nell). And before that the yard, the yard and a quarter or yard and half ($150) and work now and then.

"One day out on the lot," said Polly, "a man came up and gave me his card. 'Hello, Polly,' he said, 'you remember M. S. Bentham, the agent?'

"I don't know, and I never saw you in my life," I said.

"Polly, you don't mean that," he answered. "Polly, me, M. S. Bentham, the agent."

### Polly Remembers

"'Nuts,' says I, 'with that M. S. Bentham bunk. Nearest I ever got to seeing you was the sign on your private office in the St. James building.'

"And that's going back some, too, isn't it?" asked Polly. "The St. James building down at Broadway and 26th street, when I was starving almost every other day.

"Well, Bentham didn't try to put the bee on me, which was something, anyway, for an agent in Hollywood.

"I'm all prepared against the bee thing. That's going to work on a system while I'm east, isn't it, Bess?

"You haven't asked me yet how I like pictures, or my work, or about my public or my flying pigeons. Go on, ask me something, even dirty.

"No? I'm flopping again. Come on, Bess, let's blow this joint. I'll try that bag stuff for another walk-around."

## MATTER OF PARKING SIGN

### Court Dismisses Cop's Complaint Against Klein's Garage

Harry Klein, of the Monaco Garafe, 127 West 50th street, was fred in West Side Court on the charge of having a misleading sign in front of his garage. The sign reads "25 cents parking." This is printed in large letters.

Below, in very small type it reads, "two hours." When the owner of the machine calls for his car he is confronted with a larger bill. He protests and upon scrutinizing the sign he discovers the smaller type.

Many complaints have reached Capt. Hayes of the West 47th street station. Hayes assigned Patrolman Leo Doyle to make an investigation. Doyle served Klein with a summons.

Klein declared he would not remove the sign as it was a rival's complaint. The court fixed bail at $25. A hearing later resulted in the dismissal of the complaint.

The court ordered Doyle to have a citizen make the complaint. Doyle informed the court that many autoists had complained of Klein's misleading sign. Doyle told the court that theatregoers parked their cars at the Monaco believing that when the show was over their bill would be 25 cents.

## Building Managers' Q. T. Hostess Racket In Empty Apartments

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

New angle on the hostessing thing has managers of apartment houses cutting into the gravy, but the owners of the apartments left in the cold.

With so many of the swankier type apartments currently vacant, a local hostess supplier and a favored few house managers are clicking from the playboys who like to do their playing on the q.t. It's a means of getting service with a homelike atmosphere. Under the new system the playboy calls up headquarters and designates types as to femme companionship, food and liquor. On his second call he is told at which apartment he can find the hostess, the liquor and the eats. Maid is there to prepare the meal and serve the drinks, then comes back the following morning to put the apartment in shape.

Some managers are getting fancy rents for the one-night stands and it's dark to the owner, for the rental never gets on the monthly statements.

## Ticket Broker No Steerer, Cohen Talks Himself Out

Max Cohen, 1478 Walton avenue, Bronx, one of the four Cohens, theatre ticket brokers, was in West Side Court, explaining to Magistrate Leonard McGee that he was guiltless of soliciting passersby to buy tickets for the "Follies."

Cohen was arrested by detective Walter Bloom of Inspector Walsh's staff near the Ziegfeld theatre. Bloom testified he saw Cohen approach two women to solicit the sale of theatre tickets or "steer" as the boys say.

"The charge is absurd," said Cohen. "I am a ticket broker and have an office. It is ridiculous to assert that I would steer patrons to buy tickets."

"I was talking to Sam Gibbs about a miniature golf course in the Bronx. I was on the sunny side of the street. A woman approached me and asked some question. Gibbs and I stepped across to a canopy where it was shady to resume our talk," said Cohen.

Gibbs corroborated. The Court said there appeared to be some doubt and discharged Cohen.

## MUSICIAN SENTENCED

William Burns, 42, musician, with a long police record, was sentenced to the penitentiary by the Justices of Special Sessions after his conviction of possessing narcotics.

Burns was found at Columbus ave. and 62nd street July 20 with a load of heroin.

## Sentenced for Slipping Hotel Crying Check

Pleading guilty to passing a worthless check on the credit manager of the Park Central hotel, Harry L. Blumenthal, 31, salesman, was sentenced to the penitentiary for a term not to exceed three years by the Justices of Special Sessions. Blumenthal is also wanted in Philadelphia on a similar charge.

John Pringle, credit manager of the hotel, caused Blumenthal's arrest April 25 after he had cashed a check drawn on a Philadelphia bank for $75.

# CHATTER

## Broadway

Al Myers on vacation.
Ed Kook back from Boston.
Jim Maher lost the mustache.
RKO outing to Indian Point Aug. 29.
Bill Vodery has been Saratoga-ing.
Nickel sandwiches on Broadway now.
"Free For All" to have a revolving stage.
Charlie Beahan's new trick air cooler.
Virginia Smith out of "Shoot the Works."
Sam Coit, formerly at Equity, radioing.
Jimmy F. A. Gillespie visiting from Chicago.
Danny Collins can't get under that 110 mark.
Sam Brody is with the Century Circuit in Brooklyn.
James Hayden will play dramatic stock in Dallas this winter.
Floyd Buckley still wearing that shorts outfit, and oh, those gams.
Billy Mishkin, Broadwayite, back from Paris but returning there soon.
The A. C. Blumenthals did not sail with Mayor Walker for Erope.
Tom Culberhouse, of the Dwight Wiman office, is around again after a badly wrenched ankle.
One index to the fall off in golfing is the caddies. They're all squawking.
Betty Raskin, Bobby Newman's sec, figuring on a Coast trip, but as a vacash.
Freddie Block explains sprained ankle by saying he slid into second base.
Nellie Roy has gone to Atlantic City, in the show there at the Embassy Club.
John Mason Brown of the "Evening Post" is a summer professor at the U. of Mont.
Ernie (Mickey) McCauley, manager of Manhattan theatre, nee Hammerstein's.
Roger Pryor is with "A Modern Virgin" in Asbury Park, N. J., his old home town.
Tom Van Dycke has a two-character play, and plenty of trouble getting those two.
Sam Weiser got that tan in Jersey. He goes back with Joe Cook in "Rain or Shine."
Earl Pierson is suing an express company where he had his trunks stored. Locks broken.
Tony Hunting is putting over a new theatre deal in the Atlantic Highlands, N. J., district.
Buttermilk, used on Second avenue in the place of fruit juices, is down to three cents a glass.
One Broadway drug store has the clerks on the sidewalk in comedy hats pushing cigarette sales.
The guy who occupies the Palace theatre fire escape every night was formerly an acrobat in vaude.
Sylvia Lewis, former editor of the women's section of the Sunday "World," now Paul Streger's sec.
Harry Arthur is enjoying his V-bottom, which, in case you think too fast, is an aquatic runabout.
Sidney Piermont and Irving Tishman will be Louis Mosconi's guests at the Thousand Islands week Aug. 22.
Thousands of that bumper crop of oranges have been shipped into New York, with orange prices hitting the cellar.
Paul Palmer, erstwhile Sunday editor of the equally erstwhile "World," doing press work for Pat McNutt.
One of those Fifth Avenue places is asking a dollar a pound for gum drops. Don't they know there's a depression on?
After a siege in Harbor Hospital, Stanley Smith, juve lead with the late "You Said It," is on Long Island for a rest.
They're calling him Two-Gun Atkinson around the "Times." The drama critic has a place upstate near Legs Diamond's.
Fruit juice stands around the Main Stem are linking show angles with their open-air biz. One at 47th street has its own barker.
Lou Holtz is looking for a spot to spend that 17 days' vacation between his Palace marathon and the road start of "You Said It."
Clarence Curry, colored supervisor for Billy Grady, a papa. Kid born July 4 and Clarence claims because of that he'll be the first black president.
According to the New York Hotel Men's Association there are 119,000 rooms on Manhattan Island alone, and 50,000 and less of these are rented each day.
Suffering from a strained ligament, received last week while playing golf, Sam Dembow is on crutches. He was away from his office four days, unable to get into the city.
Billy Cloonan pulled a birthday party in Brooklyn Friday (7). Felt so happy he invited a raft of agents over for some life-saving refreshments. Thermometer at 90. No absentees.
Doc Rockwell, who already owns and operates Tinker Tavern at Boothbay, Me., has purchased a home at Southport up there. Monologist is now occupying cottage with his family at Ebencook Harbor.
After spending a couple of days with O. B. Keeler and Bobby Jones on the Coast last spring, to come home and shoot around 110, Charlie Einfeld took some more lessons and three months later is just viewing the high 80's again.

## Berlin

By Max Magnus

Karl Grune in Paris.
Ike Blumenthal here.
Lil Dagover with Ufa.
Peter Voss back from Rome.
Lilian Gish in Bad Nauheim.
Kuba Glass off to Amsterdam.
Max Reinhardt in Riga on vacation.
Ernst Deutsch's first talker will be "Lasalle."
Herbert Selpin will direct a picture with Tobis.
Eugen d'Albert wrote a new opera, "Mr. Wu."
Karl Zuckmayer writing a stage play, "Eduard VII."
Heinz Ruehman bought an aeroplane for week-end trips.
Louis Douglas, negro actor, in the picture, "No Man's Land."
John Ringling here engaging German acts for his circuses.
Lotte Lenia left for Moscow for the Erwin Piscators talker.
Friedrich Hollaender in Swinemuende after a severe illness.
Franz Heckendorf obtained permission to paint in his prison cell.
Franz Lehar is working on his old operetta, "Das Fuerstenkind." Presented by the Rotters.
Ressl Orla, once one of the most celebrated German film actresses, died, 40 years old, in poverty.
Otto Gebuehr will again appear on the stage next season in Victor Kelemen's "Das Meisterwerk" ("The Masterpiece") at the Renaissance or Tribuene.
Lilli Darvas will take the lead in her husband's, Franz Molnar, play, "Somebody," at the Deutsches theater in October.
Instead of engaging regular supers for Erick Charell's picture, "The Congress Dances," Ufa engaged 300 Stahlhelms, members of a nationalistic organization.
Erwin Piscator may not return to Germany. He was appointed director of the International theatre in the Soviet Union, and will also make pictures in Russia.
In Paris: Albert Bassermann, Lucie Hoeflich, Ursula Grabley, Matthias Wiemann, Jakob Tiedtke, Ludwig Stoessel, Alfred Polgar, Jenny Jugo, Trude Hesterberg, Oskar Karlweiss, Karl Etlinger, Tibor von Halmay, Max Reichmann, E. W. Emo, Georg Alexander, Otto Wernicke, Camilla Horn, Margot Lion, Oscar Sima, Leo Mittler, Olga Tschechova, Walter Janssen, Toni Tetzlaff, Adalbert von Schlettow, Oscar Homolka, Gustav Diesse.

## Budapest

Open-air theatricals on Margaret Island Aug. 20, national holiday.
W. J. Hildebrand, "National Geographic" mag editor, collecting material.
Philip Moeller of the Theatre Guild spent two days here. Helen Westley also present.
Magyar theatre lease for next season to Imre Farkas, playwright, and Laszlo Vajda, director.
Nicholas Haaz, New York photographer, here for a long visit with his family after photographing Soviet Russia.
Erno Kiraly, for many years starred as lead in musical comedy, now selling Hungarian books in Transylvania.
New theatrical agency proposing to export Hungarian plays to foreign countries is under management of Dr. Annie Fischer.
John Hearst, Jr., here with his wife. Sobbies rushed him for interviews, but John knows his ropes and didn't say much.
Americans were hard up for cash for three days during which Budapest banks closed on account of German financial crisis.
The heat is terrible here. Many American visitors spend the day in St. Gellert pool and nights at New York restaurant on Margaret Island.
Best looking American girls are Annie White, Broadway actress, and Anne Nederhoed, daughter of John Nederhoed, editor of "Town and Country."
Maria Nemeth, Hungarian opera singer, to her native village in this country, Zalaszentgrot. So difficult to pronounce that she thinks impresarios can't find her there.
Economy campaign starts in state-subsidized theatres in the fall. Opera and National will either dismiss many members or reduce salaries. If members don't accept, management proposes to employ pupils of state theatrical and operatic schools.

## Australia

By Eric Gorrick

"Calendar" flops for W. T.
Rene Riano here for vaude.
Film distributors' salary cutting.
"City Lights" not smash expected.
Hugh D. McIntosh opens a cake shop.
"Viennese Nights" in third month at Sydney.
U. T. playing "Kiki" on double-feature bill.
Stuart F. Doyle lays up yacht till brighter times.
"Indians Are Coming" bringing back the kids to all theatres.
Trolley cars playing the concession racket for added business.
Managements decide on 25 cents minimum admission city and suburbs.
Vaude strong in Melbourne for Muller. American acts opening in August.
Fullers tinkering with vaude-revue. May abandon talker policy in several theatres.
Common sight nowadays to see an exhibitor walking around with "Variety" under his arm.
Fox Movietone Australia turning out weekly full-length newsreel. Harry Lawrenson in charge.
Everybody believes vaude will come back before year is out. Revue already set over here.
Frank Neil, indie legit producer, tried a two-a-day policy with stock productions in Sydney. Floppo.
"Night Out" (revival) doing surprising business for W. T. Figured old-timer will stay at least five weeks.
Exhibitors decide the concession racket must go overboard at once and a fixed minimum admission scale adhered to.
Gilbert and Sullivan revivals still smashing gross records for W. T. in Melbourne. Same firm clicking with "Dearest Enemy."
"Viennese Nights" failed in Melbourne. Same picture smash in Sydney. Experts figure matter of publicity handling.
Williamson-Tait renting scenery and costumes to amateurs for local productions. Easy way to cop some extra dough, they figure.
Iris Darbyshire, English, premieres in "My Lady's Dress" for W. T. in Sydney. English actress is first importation in many months.
Union Theatres couldn't start work on its Australian talker, "On Our Selection," until cameras had been sound-proofed in America. All set now.
Williamson-Tait satisfied to produce revivals only this season. Find better proposition than risking new productions with money market low. No "angels" over here.
People's State Saving Bank will reopen soon, reports have it. With bank again open for business, theatrical industry should take an upward trend. Afraid to spend right now.
Decision of Hoyt's and Union theatres to reduce advertising in the newspapers means a severe loss to the publishers. Commercial advertising has also slipped alarmingly the past few months.
Hoyt's find angle to pre-release viewing of big attractions by allowing charity to benefit from Sunday shows. Public allowed to book seats at these trade shows with entire gross going to charity.
Tab revue is coming back strongly. Sydney theatre some time ago closed with talkers and brought in burlesque troupe for try. Capacity right along since opening. Other managements now figuring try. Present troupe shoots everything over.

## Minneapolis

By Les Rees

Bud Rogers, Sono-Art, visiting local exchange.
Milt Davis back from vacation and again reviewing for "Tribune."
Morgan Ames, RKO divisional head, back from meeting in New York.
Wesley "Freckles" Barry playing Twin City night clubs and roadhouses.
Esther Benz, secretary to Martin Kelly, Publix, back on job after long illness.
Minneapolis girls with Fanchon & Marco units—Dorothy Welch and Muriel Gardner.
Jimmie McDermott, manager of American theatre, stung by deer fly and now on crutches.
Three ERPI salesmen laid up by illness—E. C. Leeves, C. A. Brethren and John Robinson.
Merle Potter, "Journal" film and drama editor, has book of Minnesota pioneer stories published.
Ralph Branton, assistant to Martie Mullins, Publix eastern divisional director, here on vacation.
Phil Dunas, Columbia pictures' district manager, in town. Columbia takes on local exhib, S. G. Lebedoff, for sales staff.
Henry Robinson, assistant, supplants Arthur Heusman as Educational exchange booker. Latter promoted to sales staff.
Bob LaPiner, of Publix staff, just out of hospital, but arrangements being made to send him to Walter Reade hospital in Washington.
Arthur Faust, heavy with Bainbridge stock last season, giving weekly dramatic readings over local radio station. Assisted by his mother.
Metropolitan claims to have taken Theatre Guild shows away from the Lyceum. New manager, Edward A. Stein, now in New York completing bookings.
Mrs. Dick Gilbert, wife of RKO exploitation manager, visiting parents in Louisville. Couple's first separation since their marriage five years ago.
Billboard posters and one-sheets plead with populace to send 50 cents to join organization trying to save legit stage and give employment to actors and others.
Publix suburban houses putting on "Mayan Week" to boost grosses for "love o' Mike," aforesaid Mike being Mike Mayan, Publix suburban city manager.
Another green suit in town—A. R. Merriman Minnesota theatre treasurer, wearing it. Dick Gilbert, RKO exploiter, owner of other, trying to fix deal whereby he wears his in summer and Merriman his in winter.

## London

Football training commenced.
Adrian Brunel on the Riviera.
Dave Goldenberg on continent.
Tom Walls abed with influenza.
Haddon Mason holding the baby.
Sinclair Hill going in for hiking.
Nancy Welford starting talkers soon.
There was a West End sell out—once.
Dudley Leslie authoring another book.
Herbert Wilcox signed Brigette Helm.
The Mannocks have a country seat now.
Dimitri Buchewetzki leaving England soon.
J. Stapleton new studio manager at Elstree.
Walter Morosco settling down for Paramount.
There's another Will Evans comeback parley.
Looks like stage shows at the Carlton soon.
John Maxwell shortly going Americanwards.
Hugh Perceval getting space on that script of his.
Ritziest Londoners now talking the best American.
Charlie Tucker still reads his native lingo—Yiddish.
Best actor in "The Flying Fool" the unnamed aviator.
British International over-issuing trade show invitations.
Henry Sherek trying to forget the 10% racket a fortnight.
Ann Todd getting the rave publicity in the local studios.
Chris Mann got spotted for leaving his auto unattended.
Ten thousand folks at Buckingham Palace garden party.
Lord Beaverbrook off to Canada, complete with Castlerosse.
It's said now Madeleine Carroll isn't really engaged after all.
Carlyle Blackwell off to the States, after first visiting Germany.
Most of the cheap eateries which opened last spring have folded.
Flats are getting very cheap here, minus central heating of course.
Cosmo Club, founded by Jack May 20 years ago, in hands of receiver.
No provincial revue complete without "Sez you" and "Oh, yeah?"
Sunny Jarman out of show business, but still attends first nights.
Harry Hilling, last three years with Reeves & Lamport, resigned suddenly.
Alfred and Frank Zeitlin have taken life sentences. Both wives non-pros.
Ewart Hodgson has new barring theory about British talkers on Broadway.
Evelyn Laye taking operatic training seriously, under tutorship of Mrs. Percy Pitt.
Twenty years back Gracie Fields toured the sticks as Gracie Stansfield, the juvenile star.
Macqueen Pope appointed Sir Alfred Butt's pub agent, position he held several years back.
New hat for the dames this side is called the "East Lynne." May be inflicted on New York soon.
Two guys set off in a baby auto to tramp their way to Hollywood via Panamas and San Francisco.
"Sunday Express" latest English paper to turn the 1,000,000 sale mark. It's an old Fleet Street custom.
Latest title of a West End night club is the Alleged. It is.
Gina Milo is still Janet Flynn to her friends.
Chick York inviting Victoria Palace customers to drop in for dinner anytime they are passing his house at Long Island.

## Paris

Leopold Godowsky to N. Y.
Where is Glenway Westcott?
Alice Delysia looking for play.
Tom Webster penciling around.
What happened to Allen Durant?
Cliff Wheeler back to Hollywood.
Jetta Goudal says she's coming over.
German picture actors flocking Paris.
Jack Curtis holding court at the Rovaro.
Winifred Black in pajamas on the Lido.
Mary Doro in St. Germain without Rosie.
Michel Cavarubias at the Hotel de la Paix.
A lot of Americans afraid to go into Germany.
Harris Lewis of "Hollywood Citizen" in town.
Eddie Kane is with the Hearst party in Italy.
That Avenue Marceau apartment of Mabel Boll.
Michael Farmer back in nightclubs here again.
Alice Terry with a new beau who gets all eyes.
Maurice Dekobra living nicely off American royalties.
J. C. Witteried boosting publicity for the Lido.
Dagmar Godowsky from Bad Kissingen to Corsica.
One doesn't hear so much of Jacques Lerner now.
Mireille Perrey hoping London has not forgotten her.
Anthony Princeps and Margaret Bannerman back to London.
Claire Luce back home after two days in the American hospital.
Pepi Lederer is going back to Hollywood after a year of Europe.
Nancy Welford getting a gown or two before returning to New York.
Grace Moore says pearls come from the sea, but emeralds from ocean crossings.
Ed Haeffel is now on the night desk of the Paris New York "Herald."
Sydney Rayner and Hallie Stiles successful at the Paris Opera Comique.
Brigette Helm feeding sandwiches to the Paris journalists at a cocktail party.
Bad for anything but thin girls, these new bustles and ruffles in winter showings.
Danny and Eddy, the four Carlton brothers, and the Sidell sisters for the Casino revue.
Deauville attempting a boost by inducing about 40 actresses to drive their own cars there in a race.
One of the Keene sisters, and Anita de St. Quentin, of Elizabeth Arden memory, joining the luncheon party at Alberts, consisting of Dagmar Godowsky, Mrs. Harry Lachmann and Helena Rogers, and congratulating the latter on her engagement to Richard Hageman.

## Canton

By Rex McConnell

Polo gaining in popularity.
George Reister vacations east.
Oscar Beck now a booker of bands.
Bob Rhodes will vacation in Newark and Columbus.
No stage shows for Loew's this fall, says Manager Buehrig.
Cecil Armitage's band, local, set for rest of summer at Tavern.
Meyers Lake Park cuts kid tickets on several rides to a nickle.
Premiere of night baseball draws best crowd of year. House of David, with own portable lighting equipment, responsible for gate.
Dick Harter, Repository theatre scribe on vacation. Denny Smith, former theatre commenter on "Daily News," pinch hitting.

## Montreal

By C. W. Lane

Doc Wright stages annual comeback in tennis.
Arthur Cohen invited here to discuss conditions.
Howard Conover says no vaude in sight for Imperial.
Biggest sport kick in Canada is comeback of lacrosse.
Operators picketing Mike Dunning's house. The Park.
Worst summer in seven years for flickers, nabes all in red.
Montreal's first successful walkathon under way at Arena.
Cabarets fading. Even the best don't advertise these days.
Mount Royal gets usual weather breaks with two flood days.
McGill University in red by $300,000. Cutting down faculties.
British pictures getting big play, but censors slashing heavy.
S. Morgan Powell boosting happiness book offered free by "Star."
Hoping tourist biz next six weeks will make up for early season slump.
Baz O'Meara pepping up "Star's" sport pages with passing show comment.
Alice Brady, guest artist at Orpheum, tying up with department stores on dress shows.
Billy Bissett surprising locals with brass section of orchestra which is an innovation here.

# CHATTER

## Saranac Lake

By "Happy" Benway

Rainy season is on.

Nellie Queally, down for one meal, hurrah.

Write to those that you know in Saranac.

Town going nuts, tourist off 50 per cent.

Dorothy Harvard sitting up and doing things.

Charley Bordley and the Mrs. hitting on all six.

Mae DeLany coming along okay. Mother is visiting her.

Mike McMamee, walking, a wow after two years in bed.

Millie Jasper, back on the diet routine and doing great.

Gladys Palmer feeling blue. Her mother just left for California.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Morris paid the Lodge a visit. Kind of a tonic.

Joe Mulvey, late partner of Ida Howard, now week-ending here.

Somebody stole Andrew Monlony's cane, he's gone back to bed.

Bessie Purdy showing to fine returns. Looks like she'll be up soon.

Frank Mix, Tom's cousin, put in a week-end looking over the Lodge.

Wife and son of Andreas Erving are here licking up the Adirondack air.

Angela Papulis, holding her own. Still in bed trying to beat that setback.

Ben Schaffer weathering a setback. Will go through an operation this week.

Monroe Coleman finds time to spend many hours with the Good Cheer Club.

Harry Mayer, ex-showman and brother of Dr. Edgar Mayer, is here trying to talk fish.

Helen Antalek, much disappointed. She was in an auto accident and didn't get a broken arm.

James Cannon gets extra good report, results of one months' curing. Looks like he'll return home soon.

Dr. George Stivers, who medico'ed here for a while, now connected with a sanatorium at Worcester, Mass.

Ingred Fisher got that surprise in the visit of friend husband. Pulse went up and so did the mental attitude.

William Meyers (Local No. 1) now taking rest cure at the Clancy Cottage. Incipient case that is doing very well.

A. B. Anderson, manager Pontiac theatre, just returned from a two weeks' visit in New England. Gained a lot of tan, and tan not popular here.

E. L. Doty, well known trouper, now taking the cure at the Pleasant Valley Sanatorium, Bath, N. Y. Would appreciate word from friends.

Danny Murphy, vaudevillian and burlesquer, expected here for a mess of this Adirondack ozone. Danny did the cure thing here some five years ago.

Jim Williams (Shapiro, Bernstein Music Co.) shot back to the Lodge after being away for 15 months. Looks a little tired, but a few months will do the trick.

Special show given at the Lodge by show folks who were showing at the local fair. Performance arranged and directed by Eddie Voss and George Harmon. Among those who appeared were S. J. Ruth, Denver Jack, Prince Angelic, Carroll Miller, Kora Hawaiian Troupe, Chocolate Blossom Co., Charles Doyle and Cyclone Peterson and Billy Cross wrestled. Thanks, ladies and gentlemen, thanks.

Monthly report on general exam. by Dr. George Wilson: Happy Benway, good; Harry English, good; Andreas Erving, very good; Edith Cohen, fair; Alma Montague, extra good; Allie Bagley, good; Harry Namba, good; Lillian Leonora, very good; Fred Bachman, great; Dick Moore, good; Toni Temple, very good; James Cannon, great; Ben Schaffer, not so good; Eddie Voss, great; Tommy Tbbott, extra good; Fred Buck, good; Fred Rith, great; Bessie Purdy, great; Ford Raymond, good; William Holly, great; Lawrence McCarthy, great improvement; Kitty Vogelie, fair; Phyllis Milford, extra good; Ida Howard, good. Not one really bad report. Our doctors' do things here.

## Reno

Four-day Labor Day celebration all set.

Norma Shearer's mother gets Reno divorce.

Hot spell ended and temp drops back to around 90 top.

Fishing season closed in Truckee River because of low water.

Capt. Billy Fawcett of Whiz Bang fame playing around the blue rock traps.

Belle Livingston still converting cow barn into night club. Work nearly done.

Gov. James Rolph, Jr., of California and Governor Balzar of Nevada hunt sage hen in Nevada wilds.

White-haired Bill Rigdon, Kansas poet and double of Mark Twain, here on visit and selling his poems.

Open season on ducks closed in many Nevada counties because of water shortage. Sportsmen kicking.

Los Angeles newspapers wanting to know if Doug Fairbanks has established residence here. He has not.

June Inverclyde, British comedy star, due to get Reno decree Aug. 21 from John Burns, British steamship baron.

Maurice and Joe Berlinger here from Hollywood to rush work on their new beanery—Henry's of Reno. Swanky joint.

Doc John D. Brock and Col. Ruby Garrett drop in from Kansas City on air tour of country, carrying boost pub. for home town.

## Jersey Shore

By Wes Nolte

Ed Collins at Rumson.

Tony Sarg Spring Laking it.

Richard Crook summering at Sea Girt.

Renee Carroll sun tanning at Asbury Park.

Vincenzo Bellezza vacationing at Long Branch.

Howard Marsh's speedboat is called "Hey! Hey!"

Albert J. Spaulding at his Monmouth Beach estate.

Charles Hascall, son of Lon, from Hollywood to Fair Haven.

Feds raided 25 cases at Asbury Park in one night. A record.

Alice Boulden appeared for one night (Saturday) at Ross-Fenton Farms.

Frieda Hempel and Roland Hayes booked for the Ocean Grove Auditorium.

Gray Delmar, son of Vina, throws a birthday party at Belmar. His seventh.

Nat Brittingham, formerly of vaude, announcer at the Red Bank Airport.

Vic Arden and Phil Ohman at the Norwood Country Club, Long Branch.

Lights on Ocean Ave., Long Branch, don't go on till nine o'clock now. City economy.

Commuters must now pay cash for monthly tickets. Cheques out since a flock bounced.

Beachfront concessionaires at Point Pleasant, whose stands encroach on Ocean Ave., will be ejected.

Belle Hawley, George Watts, Harry Welch, Johnny Weber and Frank Otto put on a show at the Player's Boat Club, Fair Haven.

Roseland cabaret, Bobby Tutt's cafe and Do Drop Inn, all colored night clubs on Springwood Ave., Asbury Park, up in flames. Racketeers suspected.

## Boston

By Len Libbey

Joe Rines has been relieved of an appendix.

WBZ moves to Hotel Bradford, formerly the Elks hotel.

L. C. Prior celebrates his 25th anniversary as a hotel proprietor.

George Olsen topped the Valentino night at Bournhurst (dance hall) which was believed unbeatable.

Wrestling pulled 32,000 people and a gross gate of $64,000 last week while the fight promoters flopped badly.

Rita Carlton roof garden nearing completion and New Year's Eve reservations now being accepted at $50 per.

George Munroe of the Shuberts working on developing interest in a National Junior Theatre movement for Boston.

George Wilson, former Boston Museum dramatic star, bathes daily in the nude at the L Street Baths at the age of 81.

Micky Alpert, at the Westminster Roof, won the Boston "Traveler" contest for the most popular dance orchestra leader.

Local dailies gave $17,450 worth of free space to publicity on the wine brick racket, including where to buy it and the price.

Joe Brennan, of the State, knows his horse flesh judging by the thoroughbred he dug up to parade the streets to exploit a film.

Jack Corrigan, house engineer at the Publix Capitol, wears a tux whenever he shows off his polished engine room to his public.

Chair rentals at outdoor free symphony concerts show the biggest profits of any amusement hook-up in New England this season.

Latest government census shows 2,307,897 people living within 20 miles of Boston, but they've apparently given up attending theatres.

Sally Wambolt, Back Bay blue blood, has crashed the song writing game with two numbers, and Micky Alpert still insists he discovered her.

Joe Donahue, brother of the late Jack, was given a swell kidding by Judge Dowd during a court trial when Joe gave his business as "comedian."

## New Haven

By H. M. Bone

Steve Perutz on a holiday.

Lew Schaefer also holidaying.

Paddy Carter home after Canada.

E. J. Harvey holidaying in Richmond, Va.

Beason Nite Club, Savin Rock, will try again.

Sy Byer has his radio band at Camp Milford.

Luella Walton thinks bridge is the dumbest game.

Joe Farrell spends his night off going to a picture.

Phil Vallie's orchestra with Roxy Nite Club for season.

Floyd Stuart has been roasting in Texas for two weeks.

Alice Keating Cheney has a cat named "Peter Ibbetson."

Gene Brassil to work after two weeks here with the folks.

Dayt Saltsman wants to raise chickens when he retires.

Gregory Smith's painting won a prize at the Lyme art exhibition.

The S. Z. Poli finger comes out of the Fox pie in another three weeks.

Harry Berman as m. c. at Fox-Poli during Freddy Mack's absence.

Johnny Miller, with nine decks of smokes and a toothbrush, on vacation.

Zoe Beckley and Helen Rowland drop in for a weekend at Indian Neck.

Mitchell's, out Branford way, draws 'em like flies on Saturday nights.

Tom Clark spent his vacation by hanging around the Fox-Poli green room.

Mid-morning finds Eddie Weaver headed for the municipal golf course.

Harry Cohen put seven pounds toward a bay-window while on vacation.

All those vacations backstage at the Fox-Poli make it nice for Bill O'Connell.

Blanche Calloway, Cab's sister, had her Joy Boys at Pleasure Beach Ballroom.

A rise for Olive McLay from local kiddie revues to a spot in a Broadway revue.

Kearney Walton back after two weeks of horseshoe pitching in South Kent.

Harvey Cooks can now rest his feet on the Paramount managing director's desk.

Jack Kilfeather, home for a holiday, directed an amateur show in his spare time.

Wonder how Bill Black keeps that "Warner Baxter" on his upper lip so well-tailored?

Henry Busse would like to be back in his own Minnesota summer spot for a vacation.

Walter Stuart, ex-N. H. Par, has shifted again. That guy must need some more golf clubs.

They're trying to fix up a race between Old Number Eleven and Johnny Grenold's "yot."

Marjorie Smith, whose novel Macaulay released a week ago, used to scribble for a local sheet.

Now that Jitney Players have removed mosquito menace from their Tent theatre they're drawing more customers.

Hattie Ely, who court stenogs for a living, composes songs in shorthand and has a N. Y. publisher market them.

Fred Cuneo, theatrical manager and Emily Hayfack, actress, both of Milford, will soon sit at the same breakfast table.

Local sport who invited a lot of show people to his house for a "wild" party, amazed to find none of them went for the liquid refreshments.

## Cincinnati

By Joe Kolling

Ike and Abe Libson vacationing in Maine.

Joe Alexander in plus sixes, blames golf.

Bryant's Showboat, in 10th week at city warf.

Herman Bernfield is new m. p. ed for "Enquirer."

Roy H. Beattie returned sans pouch and with juve hair.

Tom Riley up from Lexington, Ky., to p.a. Barge O'Dance.

Nabe cinemas boosting by special nighting WLW entertainers.

Rudy Tschudi spotting three saxes in his Albee pit combo.

Irving Berger, ex-Keith agent, now has cut-rate dry cleanery.

Bill Dodds working out on merry-go-ground for horseback riding.

Harry Willsey's orchestra has switched from Zoo clubhouse to Netherland Plaza.

Frank Aston, "Pest" critic, failed to faint during WFBE-radio interview of Harriet Hoctor.

Cliff Almy refused salary cut as local mgr. for United Artists. Succeeded by Willie Rosenthal.

Henry Busse and Salt and Peanuts in battle of flash and autos. Busse tops with fire-wagon red.

Bill Stiegler, "Times-Star" reviewer, away for a month to lamp wilds of Maine and Broadway. Jerry Hurter sitting in.

Max Halperin keeps an eye on RKO interests in Cincy, Dayton and Columbus while John E. Firnkoess, midwest div. chief, is in Cleveland and Pittsburgh.

Russian name band feud on between two biggest local hotels. Gibson has Joe Cherniavsky and Netherland Plaza opposed with Constantin Polinsky. Rival press agents tried to have 'em made Kentucky Colonels.

## Dallas

By Rudy Donat

Joe Lubben rates a by-line.

Midnight rambles drawing again.

Rialto misses Gus Eyessell, in N.Y.

Eddie Barr back from New Orleans.

Cigarettes taking a three cent hike (tax).

Allen McQuhae, tenor, visiting with family.

Paul Short's hobby's admiring his lobby.

Heroes of the summer—Majestic ushers with their long coats.

Eva Ivey, native hoofer, appearing with vaude act in England.

Hal Ramsay, Palace organist, to wed this fall. Bride elect non-pro.

Louis Schneider ires the newshawks with his perpetual denials.

Lloyd Rust, former booker with P-P, goes Allied (indie) as sales mgr.

Len Brown's so old fashioned he peeps around the office before he cusses.

F. B. Coleman, M-G-M, tarried for a look around enroute to New Orleans.

On insistence of John Friedl, "News" dropping starring system on reviews.

New city manager put the lid down, mit gusto, on all gab of a muny censor.

Group of ex-pit musicians, headed by Hy Charninsky, making the city parks in concert.

Mrs. Hal Groves, wife of Copyright's steam roller in Texas, summering in Schenectady, N.Y.

Bill Elliott, local lad, handling art for p.a. dept. at RKO Majestic, doubling on "Uncle Jake," new sport weekly.

Helen Doty, dance teacher, vacationing on Coast plus couple of concerts with Adolph Bolm in Hollywood Bowl.

Ira Welborn, "Dispatch" c.e., who doubles on reviews, experimenting with new style, the rube's letter to the folks back home.

## San Francisco

NBC buys KYA.

Gen. Hines, on tour, packing for Los.

Earl Sapiro new leader of Palm Court orchestra.

Fox-West Coast opens new Fox in Richmond (1).

42 planes bring bid to Los Angeles Fiesta Sept. 4-13.

Dutch Ruether, out of baseball, due back on Haight street.

San Jose, nearby, goes red with cannery strikers on rampage.

Abie Kemp taken by Baggerly to his first night baseball game.

J. Clarence Myers, radio ed of "Call," to wed June Berg (22).

Winged O's delay building new clubhouse. Will repair old one.

"Amazing" parachute pictures copied from London "Illustrated News."

"Windy" Fred Winsor packing for Columbus, O., to branch out as fight promoter.

Bootleggers alarmed at rumored visit here of "untouchables" of Federal forces.

Press Club starts series of "Midsummer Nights Follies" alternate Sunday eves.

Robert A. McNeil, v. p. Golden State Theatre Circuit, home from two months in Orient.

Patricia Ziegfeld leaves mother fulfilling engagement at Curran to return to Santa Monica.

Association Club in Mission reenters fight game (12) with Al Young, promoter, and Frank Shuler, matchmaker.

Tom Earnfred, Charley Leonard and Hugh Tarr can now compare operations. All three had appendixes removed last week.

Dorothy Vaughn and hubby, Sid Hester of Works Board, and all the p. a.'s in town at opening of Nugents' "A Fast One," at the Columbia.

Robert S. Lawler, who played with Frank Craven and Elsie Ferguson, now in radio serial. Will Foster, formerly of the flickers, also in cast over KTAB.

"Tiger" and Evelyn Thompson motoring to Alpine County in the Sierra with Henry von Sabern's camping outfit. Ada Hanifin in charge of drawma at "Examiner." Frank Lyman, auto ed, back from two weeks' scouting in Wayne Wonderland.

## New England

Elizabeth Hunt rejoins the Rice Players, Oak Bluffs.

Roller skating staging comeback in popularity at parks.

Nancy Howe visiting many New England resorts on vacation.

Television and radio exhibits for New England fair at Worcester.

Serials being used to promote biz mornings and matinees in some theatres.

Alfred E. Hamilton, North Adams theatre manager, files bankruptcy petition.

Frank Hollis, formerly of Kenney and Hollis, vaude, managing Fitchburg, Mass., theatre.

Old town hall at Bristol, Conn., now the Blackfriars theatre of the Manhattan Theatre Co.

Mrs. George Montgomery, wife of Los Angeles film distributing exec, visiting in Wellesley, Mass.

Edith Barrett and Guy Standing premiering "Mrs. Moonlight" at the Cape (Cod) Playhouse this week.

Work to be started this month on the Lewis Warner Memorial auditorium at Worcester, Mass., Academy.

John F. Gatelee, Springfield, Mass., projectionist, and other reel men, land plenty trout while fishing in Maine.

William F. Place, Jr., music critic of the Worcester "Telegram," made honorary member of the National Association of Harpists.

Pickpockets—and gals are suspected—are following "Old Ironsides" on its showoff cruise along the northern Atlantic coast.

Ralf Sanford leaves frau at their West Tisbury, Mass., summer home to return to New York to join Mae West's "The Constant Sinner."

Alice Malkin, Provincetown artist, sues New Haven railroad for $25,000 for injuries alleged to have been suffered in a collision of trains.

Bootleggers in amusement parks.

Edward Lynch, stage manager of Republic theatre, N. Y., visiting in Fitchburg, Mass., former home town.

Alligator that escaped from concession at White City Park, Worcester, shot by policemen after terrorizing bathers in adjoining lake. Publicity stunt, police say.

Lightning at Westport, Conn., put juice on the blink, preventing opening performance of "The Bridge the Sun Shines On," by the New York Repertory Company starring Dorothy Gish.

Henry Hadley, Manhattan Symphony conductor, sponsored a benefit concert at Vineyard Haven, Mass. Artists were Inez Barbour Hadley, Sue Prosser, Arthur Hadley and Bernard Wagenaar.

Dorothy Sands, vaude, secretly wed, July 17 at Newport, R. I., to Arthur Wheaton of New Bedford. Bride is daughter of Mrs. Georgia Sands Canning, ex-legit actress, and stepdaughter of W. S. Canning, gen. mgr. of Yamins' theatres, Fall River.

Group of young amateur and professional art students have organized at Rockport, Mass., to form Le Corps de Metiers for the presentation of a new rhythmic art, a co-ordinated effect of dance-pantomime, music and stage design. First presentation July 29 was "Ultima."

Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children having a moving picture made as a means of combatting prejudice against welfare and other organization work. Leading roles enacted by Henry Van Bouston, pro, and Nan Lagerstedt, character actress, now of Brockton, Mass.

## Columbus

By Walt Harvest

Shuffle-board town's newest and biggest fad.

Bill Dalton certain to remain at Ohio as organist.

Ted Raper, critic, has been married since March 14 it seems.

Charles Winston, new divisional manager for RKO, is called former localite.

Jimmie Peppe is reported going on the air over WCAH soon. Stunt is part of a bet.

Hal Stacey is also preparing for the matrimonial gong but refuses to say when or where.

Group of local burlesk girls, laying off through the hot days, are running a wide open beer flat.

Watty Watson showing more interest in what's what in pictures than anyone else these hot days.

Charles Weidner, former manager of Majestic and Broad theatres, has been named manager of the Southern hotel.

Censor board relents on "Just A Gigolo" and replaces several scenes once thought much too rough for the natives.

Howard Dobson so well established even the bride has decided she likes it better here than along the east coast.

Columbus' most famous and notorious bachelor, Johnny Bowen, is going to turn yes-man to one of those pretty West Virginia subjects in September.

Storms have raised hob with all local theatres on several occasions. Lights and all equipment off for more than five minutes at least three times recently.

# CHATTER

## Cleveland

Ruth Richey in Bermuda.

Penway Jade Room reopening in September.

Adele Reeser, at Cameo, marries Glen Miller.

Lou Tanno leaves to try his luck in Hollywood.

Sid Marion taking treatments for dislocated hip.

Emily Fabian leaves to join Chester Hale troup.

Doc Perkins' band opening at Meyers Lake, O.

Matt Kohler, at the Allen, a papa for the third time.

Manny Landers holding over at Golden Pheasant.

Knox Strahan boasting about his new soft drink invention.

Doc Elliott, manager of the Hipp, to play pro football again.

Myron Roman signed for another season as State's pit leader.

George Callahan, local trumpeter, mourning loss of his moustache.

Loraine Bernard, ex-stage actress, now with WTAM's dramatic staff.

Bill Lawler, despite trouble with prohis, to open new fish emporium.

Helen Tucker resting at home before joining Lenore Ulric's new show.

Tommy Canton discovered a farm house that doesn't advertise for tourists.

Fred S. Peckham, Cleveland boy, signed by Warners at $100 weekly for films.

Fred Ziesler, Columbia manager, flew to New York for first time with Izzy Herk.

Eddie Melniker and Doc Elliott can't keep away from their theatres even on vacation.

Jerry O'Connell, at Allen, only theatre manager to wear a monkey suit these dog days.

Gene and Glenn renew broadcasting contract with local baking company for another year.

W. W. Smith, manager WTAM, slated for transfer to exec post at NBC's Chicago studios.

Cline Brown, white wing in theatrical district, used to be a prize fighter in the old days.

They say here that Leo Reisman's hair grows fast enough to fill his mattress every other month.

Chester Lauck and "Tuffy" Groff taking place of Gene and Glenn at WTAM while boys vacation.

Emerson Gill's new hair tonic bringing happy results, but not enough to protect him from sun.

Toni and Janise Silvestro, restauranteurs and whistlers, expecting their first heir as a Christmas present.

Glenn C. Pullen, "Plain Dealer's" second string critic, breaks vow of bachelorhood to marry Dorothy Mae Dickey.

Gerald Davidson back from New York to organize subscription theatre here on order of Provincetown Players.

Charley Winston, from Loew's in New York, appointed head of local RKO publicity dept. Replaces Milt Crandall.

M. A. Howlett, WHK manager, in New York talking with Columbia about talent for dedication program of station's new studios.

Eddie Sindelar taking over Euclid Gardens. Reopen in September as Greystone Ballroom. Will include nitery called Cotton Club.

Phil Spitalny promoted entire set of band instruments to save luggage expenses while doubling from Willowick Country Club for Palace vaude date.

M. A. Malaney, Loew's publicity head, found himself making personal appearance for first time after walking out on State's dark stage during one of Waring's trick numbers.

Stagehand who fell asleep almost wrecked Phil Spitalny's pet "1812." Supposed to shoot gun at climax but woke up at wrong time. Phil was playing "Wabash Blues" but mugg started shooting. Spitalny ran off stage burnt up.

## Syracuse

By Chester B. Bahn

Fred Hall new stage manager at Keith's. Succeeds the late Tom Downes.

Harry Shaw, actor turned manager, did a bit on last week's free municipal vaude bill.

Leo Rosen back at the Strand, but the folks remain at Atlantic City for the rest of the summer.

Five concessionaires arrested in a raid on "World's Wonder Shows," carnival playing Star Park.

Warner Oland and the missus broke their auto trip to New England with a stopover in Syracuse.

Martin Dunn, city editor of the New York "American," will rusticate at Skaneateles beginning on Aug. 15.

J. A. Simons in from Pittsburgh to oversee Loew's State. Harry Shaw, acting manager, vacationing in Atlantic City.

E. R. Vadeboncoeur, dramatic editor of Hearst's local "Sunday American," has gone literary, clicking with a short story in the Satevepost.

Ina Walrath, Syracuse beauty winner and actress, divorced from Ace Brown, actor, has been legally adopted by her stepfather, John J. Montgomery, of this city.

Harry Wallace, one-time local newsboy and boxer, who turned actor for a type role in "Front Page," and since has stuck to the stage, is back from the Coast for a vacation.

Clinging to an overturned sailboat which capsized three-quarters of a mile from shore on Skaneateles Lake, Christine Sloan, New York actress, and Howard Stagg III, of this city, held on until drifting to safety.

## Fort Wayne

By Robert Baral

No word from Harvey Cocks.

Men bravely wearing berets at the lakes.

RKO again talking vaudeville for the Emboyd.

Remember when Emily Wright Hood did reviews?

Town worked up over shooting of two federal agents.

Bakeries permitting girl workers to wear pajamas now.

Berny Sobel has a sister, Mrs. Philip Lee, living here.

M. E. Rice, of Elgin, Ill., first Majestic manager, visiting.

Mrs. Jack Reeder, wife of orchestra leader, suing for divorce.

Frank Biemer, former Shrine manager, losing weight—the heat.

Jean Ward has taken a cottage at Tri-Lakes and only comes back to the city on Tuesdays.

Frank Stouder, another former local legit manager, devoting his time to Masonic activities.

Walter O'Keefe, director of Little Theatre Guild, in Hollywood for summer, expected back by October.

Bud Manth, assistant sports writer on "Journal-Gazette," and Loretta Bornkamp finally announce their marriage as of a year ago.

## Newark

By C. R. Austin

Capitol reopens Aug. 8.

The Broad, legit, reopens Aug. 17. No date on Shubert.

Carl Bruner, assistant at the Branford, has resigned.

Jacob Flex, manager of Loew's, Indianapolis, and formerly manager of several theatres here, present on vacation.

Now that WB has booked the full Fox product for the Branford and Mosque, the Terminal will soon go second run.

Police have cleaned up the 10-cents-a-dance places forbidding any such renting of partners. Hostesses are also flatly forbidden.

Clark Forrest, assistant at the State, is taking two weeks in north Michigan. One of the few to admit he has earned a vacation.

Manager Phillips, of Loew's State, lost his father and flew from here direct to Portland, Ore. He is accompanying the body to Texas for burial.

Managers of Jersey WB houses have put up $300 against the Philadelphia zone managers that the Jersey houses beat Philadelphia in the Warner drive.

## Washington

By John Daly

Pastime around Washington now is shooting policemen. Another one accounted for this week.

Sol Bloom branded the Beau Brummel of Congress. Suit of oxford gray with white piping.

Eddie Folliard, star reporter of the "Post," back from a vacation and an average of 12 fish a day.

John Hix, cartoonist of the "Post," has a new series, "Strange As It Seems," in the films (Universal).

Charlie Curtis off to Searocks, near Gloucester, Mass., accompanied by Mrs. Dollie Gann and her husband, Edward Everett.

Ted Joslin, presidential secretary, has acquired a Japanese valet who lays out clothes, brushes linen, draws hot tubs but no shine shoes.

Maxime Doyle, mistress-of-ceremonies at the Earle, spends time between acts cutting paper dolls for Nelson Bell, "Post" picture critic. The heat.

Despite the heat, Harry Crull manager of the Fox, had one record breaking day with all seats sold at four performances, 11,000 odd attendance.

Two former National Theatre Players—Kathyrn Givney, of the films, and Mary Laone—to appear here in "Peter Flies High," new Myron Fagan play with Glenn Hunter.

"The Great Mistake," by John Knox — reputed another "hottest book yet" on the administration—being suppressed on newsstands and book counters. Have to give name and address to get a copy, which looks like the Secret Service is on the job

## Birmingham

By Bob Brown

Taxicabs down to 15c mile, 10c additional half mile.

Vernon Reaver is beginning to look around for circus bookings for the South.

A number of the boys are playing solitaire or something with nine houses closing.

John Temple Graves is to be wedded soon to Rose Duncan Smith. He's another Mencken and his engagement was melo-dramatic, if engagements are that.

Checkers and dominoes will be illegal if a bill passes the Legislature. Bill was aimed at slot machines but included "any device used or which could be used in games of chance." These Birmingham Sundays ain't gonna be what they used to be if checkers are out.

## Denver

Ralph Freese, announcer at KOA, has resigned and gone to California.

J. T. Sheffield, owner of Sheffield Exchanges, has returned from a two-months trip through the Northwest.

Harvey Stephens, Elitch lead, reported gone Paramount. Arthur Pierson follows him in here.

Glenn T. Neville, newspaperman, and Alice Wilson, of Pueblo, married secretly three months ago. Even his own paper didn't find it out.

Exhibs seen on the row: Wm. Ostenberg, Scottsbluff, Neb., spending the summer at Estes Park; M. T. Foster, Monte Vista, Colo.; Horace Swanson, Lamar, Colo.; Blanche Tyo, Wray, Colo.; Chas. Decker, North Platte, Neb., and E. C. Treib, Roswell, N. M.

A. P. Bill, mgr. RCA Photophone office, spending some time in Salt Lake City.

R. J. Morrison, Fox exchange mgr., on biz in Utah, Idaho and Montana.

Selwin Levinson, N. Y. head of maintenance dept. for Metro, here on way to studios.

Kaspar Monahan, dramatic critic "News," and Catherine Rogers married Saturday (8). Yellowstone Park for honeymoon.

KFXF, KLZ and KFEL, Denver, and KFKA, Greeley, have had licenses renewed. KFUP, Fitzsimmons hospital, Denver, wants to transfer its license to S. H. Patterson.

## St. Paul

Irving Yates a visitor to contact some of his RKO acts.

Anne Gillen, appendicitis victim, to rejoin the Bob Hope act in Seattle.

Helen Driscoll, of Cleveland press, taking in 10,000 lakes on two weeks' trip.

Orpheum boasts a new stage floor and pratt falls again safe against splinters.

Publix putting sound into Alhambra in loop and will not renew lease on Lyceum.

Shubert stock house to reopen around Oct. 1 in effort to recoup last season's redink.

Verne Rooney wielding the stick again in the RKO pit. Six weeks' vacation on the Coast.

John Steel, of Stuart and Lash unit, visiting wife (Jeanette Hackett) and baby during layoff between here and Vancouver.

Auto dealers going for full-page ads in two weeks' tieup with all local Publix houses, including the nabes. Two-car givaway.

## Des Moines

By R. W. Moorhead

It's another gal for Herbie Kochs.

Dan Hennessey New York bound.

Cherry Sisters no draw at Sylvan.

Reba Newman just out of hospital.

With golf too expensive, everyone goes swimming.

Cliff Gregg to be cannon fodder during state fair.

Jess Day to manage the Iowa, Ft. Dodge, recently purchased by Central States.

"Devil's Pawn Shop," put on by colored Evangelical outfit, advertised: "Presented as it will be screened in Hollywood."

## Kansas City

By Will R. Hughes

Fred Souttar is sporting a new straight eight.

Garrett Cupp is seven days ahead of "Dirigible."

The Billy Morans have moved into their new bungalow.

Louis Charnisky back from an extended stay on the Coast.

"Ace" plugging "Lobying" in his column for the first-run houses.

Balloon ascensions, fireworks and pajama parades featured by the parks.

Landon Laird, after spending part of the summer in the hospital, is now on his vacation.

Herb Woolf expected to have some of his 37 thoroughbreds here for the fall meeting starting Aug. 29.

Sylvia Tell, formerly danseuse with the Chicago Opera, married here to Wellington E. Ross of Rapid City, S. D.

## San Antonio

By W. E. Keys

Not a circus announced for this city so far.

Mike Signs of Aztec staff at home sick. Too much vacation.

"Doc" Cornelius, former concessionaire, cleaning up with 50c. ties on streets.

Sam Wollford blossoms into critic class with his daily column on theatrical page of "Light."

Les Stevenson, San Antonio's newest wrestling promoter, formerly with Russell Bros. Shows. Bill Oliver, handling publicity, formerly advance agent for Hilton Sisters. Otis Metz, assistant, formerly student of Marion Talley. Eddie Voigt, matchmaker, formerly p.a. for Max Schmeling. Incorporated as Acme Amusement Co.

## Rochester

By Don Record

Strand theatre having face lifted.

Henry Riebeselle, baritone, joins WLWL.

Deke Darling, former newspaperman, a visitor.

Charley Ryan band playing at the Barn, Le Roy.

Ed Gooding of Buffalo "News" staff, dropped around.

Tom Grierson, organist at RKO Palace, home from vacation.

Dot Preston, dancer, returns to New York after vacationing at home here.

Sam Kelman is comedian with Billy Van's musical troupe starting two months' tour.

Felix Kolb here trying to get backing to open the Eastman theatre under former policy.

City zoo played to 40,000 people Sunday after spending $5,000 for new animals and opening new building.

Bootleggers make house-to-house canvasses. Salesmen switch to grape juice when prospective customer proves dry.

Slager Band, Legion outfit, engaged for Exposition instead of out-of-town band as usual. George W. C. Matz, the new director.

## Loop

Joe Cody has opened a new set of offices.

Mannie Gotthelf has left the William Morris office.

Danny Graham is acquiring a prosperity waistline.

Jack Danger had some fun with a flock of ptomaine poisoning.

Johnny Quinlan, Will Singer's right hand man in Milwaukee, to the loop on his vacash.

Pop Goldson, of the Plaza and other local theatres, is arguing with cab drivers over in Paris.

Saul Bragin, who left town to book the Paramount Canadian houses, returned last week and was recognized by everybody.

Eddie Black is leaving the Equity office shortly. Frank Delmaine coming in from Kansas City.

Sam Herman went picnicking and ate some berries off a bush. Had to stick indoors for a couple of days until his lips returned to normalcy.

Jules Greengard is working on Hazel Flynn's suggestion of painting caricatures on the Green Grill walls—to make it look like home for the literati.

## Bangor

By E. K. Welch

Arthur Hopkins vacationing.

John Golden visited Lakewood and Surry.

Felica X. Rybier, Polish pianist, visiting.

Harriet Menken motored from New York.

William E. Harris, Jr., enjoying the breezes.

Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell Huntoon, of Providence, present.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hackett at Lakewood.

Walter Damrosch to give piano recital at the Bar Harbor Club.

Branch studio of Maine Broadcasting Co. opened at Waterville.

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Tunney are rusticating up here

## Toledo

Dick McGeorge

Nabes doing fair biz.

Tom Kenny on vacation.

Lee Elman in town last week.

Johnny Ehrle home on vacation.

La Tabernilla, roadhouse, a good draw.

Some say the Vita Temple will reopen.

Fred Mollenkopf vacationing in Indiana.

Alberti will succeed Ross as m. c. at the Par.

Johnny Ehrle left suddenly for New York.

Julia Dawn will be organist at the Paramount.

Marvin Welt, Toledoan, booking for Jim Londos.

Wally Caldwell can't get those irons working right.

Fields' Minstrels being held up because of Empire rental rate.

Jack O'Connell will open offices downtown for the Allied Theatres.

Mitch Woodbury now heads his column, "Runs, Hits, but No Errors."

Frank Nally subbing for Ralph Phelps, vacationing from his "Blade" radio column.

Chuck Callahan taking days off from the footlights and is vacationing at Reno Beach.

Benny Ross gang at the Par to be discontinued and a Monday "Whoopee Night" subbed.

Red Towey, Chateau La France entertainer, married recently. Bride is former Olive Potter of Erie, Mich.

Russell Gohring, connected as announcer for WSPD, will have tryout with CBS. Formerly with U. of Mich. glee club.

Benny Ross of the Paramount will go the Michigan in Detroit. Now what will Lee Elman have to crack about Toledo?

Chuck Callahan, sunning himself at Reno beach, will be a featured comedian in his brother, Emmett's, burlesk shows this winter.

Allen Saunders, Dick Richards and Mitch Woodbury enjoyed that great bit in "Smart Money" when the blonde was kicked places.

Burke and Von Elm drew only 200 paid customers here for their exhib match at Inverness where they battled 144 holes for the Nat'l open crown.

Don Pond was the peace maker in a recent squabble some of his friends had with a traffic cop. Don got out of it too without being slugged by either side.

Elmer Williams, of the "News Bee," wrote a swell yarn on the old Burt theatre, gone these many years. Williams is conducting a column, "Places Dad Used to Know."

Lou Klewer and Plum Whipple trying to support mustachios. Only Bob French remains sane. But Gus Brauer still carries off lip honors, although Tom Williams has a good looking brush, too.

## Pittsburgh

By Hal Cohen

Villa Royale closed. No biz.

Johnny Perkins' ma and pa visited him.

Town's latest speakeasy states no femmes admitted.

Donn Wermuth, WB publicity man, on a short vacation.

"Press" falling in line with a New York column. It's by Sam Love, U.P. man.

Jack Levy still around town, the Irving Aaronson job being off for the time being.

Si Steinhauser, "Press" radio scribe, vacationing, with Billie Thomas filling in.

Jimmy Balmer insists upon breaking out into a rash of Edgar Guest recitations at every party.

Weekend express planes from here to Atlantic City getting a big play from the theatrical mob.

There's a midnight horseback club here. Dick and Mary Leibert and Earl Roeser charter members.

Dick Powell can have the juvenile lead in Irving Berlin's new musical if he can get out of his WB contract.

Stagehanding runs in Freddy Luman's family. His father has been behind the scenes at the Academy for yars and yars.

Because "Post-Gazette" was riding him editorially, Director of Public Safety Clark shut off the police radio in the newspaper's office.

Pete O'Hara, the Westmoreland pro who wins all those tournaments, has the most delightful Scotch brogue and works for a Joosh club.

Dave Rubinoff, who'll spend a week's vacation at his home here soon, wants $2,500 to work at the Stanley during his layoff. They're offering him a grand short of that.

H. M. Addison, mgr. of Penn, threw a party for "Exit Smiling" unit last week because they worked five shows a day during engagement. All the Chester Hales presented with a pair of stockings.

Brian McDonald, doing vaude in the mid-west, was tickled in a Nebraska town to see his name in lights as the headline attraction. When he reached the theatre he discovered he was the only act on the bill

# 'Round the Square

### Inside Thoughts Held On Reserve

"You remember, don't you, when I came home and told you of the accident to the car and the fellow paid me $50 for the damage, you said I must have been wrong anyway?"

It was O. M. Samuel of New Orleans talking. He's in New York on vacation with his wife, Helen. They were having dinner on the Astor Hotel Roof with friends.

"I don't remember any such thing," said Helen. "And why did you have to wait three years to bring that up now? You said you had an accident and the man gave you $50, and I merely said that that was lucky because it was more than your car was worth."

"But you also said I must have been wrong," repeated her husband, as though the incident just had been recalled to him.

"Well, then," replied Mrs. Samuel, "tell about the time that Ford bumped us on the side I was sitting and my arm was sore for three days. You never even asked me about my arm, but you told the driver he would have to pay any damage to the car, didn't you?"

"I could see you weren't hurt much, and, anyway, that happened before you said I was wrong about the other accident," replied Old Man Samuel. "You are too methodical," added O. M. to his wife. "During that first visit your mother made us when she felt faint and asked for a drink of whiskey, quick, you mixed a rye highball for her."

"There you go all over again," answered Mrs. Samuel. "That happened in 1922, and did you hear my mother complain? She said it was a very good highball because I had put ginger ale in it."

"If you are going to keep on going back, then let the folks know what happened when we were married, and that was years ago," continued Mrs. Samuel.

By this time both the Samuels were speaking without feeling, in a matter of fact tone, as though unloosening their aged grouches.

"Monty" (Mrs. Samuels' pet name for her husband when she's sore at him) "told me we would go to Shreveport on the honeymoon to spend a day or two, as he had promised a hotel man there when he got married he would first visit his hotel.

"Shreveport! Of course you folks don't know Shreveport. It's only a short way from New Orleans. We arrived at the hotel and the manager was very nice, giving us a room on the second floor. I told Monty I didn't like the second floor, too near the street and noisy. He said not to speak so loud, the hotel man was a good friend of his and he didn't want to start kicking before he paid the bill.

"But I told him I didn't want to live on the second floor, and he said alright, he would fix it. He went downstairs and came back with a bellboy. Monty told me he had a room on the top floor, so the bellboy and myself went up there with my baggage.

"I didn't see Monty again until the next morning. He called up to know if I wanted breakfast. While we were eating I asked him where he had been the night before. Monty said that as the hotel man was a friend of his and had been so nice about the room on the second floor he didn't want to hurt his feelings by leaving it, so he had slept there. Monty said that we would only be in Shreveport for another night and after that we would go to some city and hotel where he wasn't known."

Monty had no answer to his wife's story, but said he didn't see what that had to do with she telling him he was wrong three years ago when the other fellow paid the damage.

The friends at the table told Monty and Helen to keep on going, that anything else in their married lives could be told freely, but it was show time. Helen promised to tell some more the next evening.

The Samuels have no children.

---

Allan K. Foster, who breeds stallions and race horses at his place in Knowlton, Quebec, drew a tough break last week when a day old colt died, the cause being premature birth. Because of its high breeding the colt was worth $5,000, and as a yearling should have commanded $40,000 at next season's Saratoga sales. The dam was half sister to the fleet Jamestown. It was sired by a son of the great Man o' War.

### Broadway's Cheap Ballyhoos

Broadway's ballyhoos are getting cheaper and cheaper.

Probably the worst was used by the Republic burlesque. Start made with stilt men has now descended to miniature cooch dancing dolls in front of the house and a phony robot walker.

A Broadway night club recently used an auto truck with a polar bear and a music machine, in float form, on the streets. Few days later a restaurant on 47th street, ballied its opening with a loud speaker in an auto, advertising free beer and souvenirs.

### Near Beer As Profit or Loss

Looks like there's a miniature beer fight on in the Broadway sector. So far, though, it's without gat decorations.

Fight deals only with the near stuff. Combatants are cheap price restaurants with low cost combination dinner which call for either a glass of beer or cider. The beer means the difference between profit and loss.

Places are springing up over night. Chain juice stand co. with biz off, has added the dime beer to its repertoire, making the racket tougher all around, particularly through selling sandwiches to go with it.

### Running Boats

Those turning to boats for recreation and sport often go marine with mistaken conceptions. One is that because a chauffeur can drive a car, and knows something about gasoline motors, he should be able to take

(Continued on page 60)

# 60% for Dempsey On 1st Comeback Try at a $5 Top

Reno, Aug. 10.

Financially considerably flattened by dips into California resort ventures, difficulties with his film star wife, and fight promotion stunts that did not ring the cash register, Jack Dempsey let the world know last week that he's ready to step through the ropes again, any place, any time against anybody, if there's coin in sight.

The ex-champ has given Reno's night life the go by for the past month and is taking his exercise in a gym suit instead of in front of a roulette table. He's really training and has even joined the bone busting wrestlers in their workouts. His first ring venture in four years will take place here Aug. 19.

Out of Dempsey's difficulties and his desire to gather in a few shekel Frankie Neal, local promoter of fistic festivals, got a break. He's going to promote the fight and give Dempsey 60% of the gate after all expenses are paid.

### Two 4-Rounders

Regardless of the talent secured to meet the ex-champ, the scrap will pack the house and Neal will garner plenty of coin, possibly at a $5 top. Dempsey, wearing 16-ounce mittens, will meet two heavies the same night in four-rounders. His opponents will wear the regulation gloves so it appears that Jack thinks he's still pretty good.

'Way down deep Leonard Sacks, Dempsey's financial secretary, believes that 100 battles can be lined up within next 10 months for Jack and that the barnstorming jaunt will net $100,000 for the Dempsey household and possibly build up enough prestige to get Dempsey a crack at Schmelling for $500,000 or more.

# Ky. Comm. Cancels 2 Meets and Shortens 3d

Cincinnati, Aug. 10.

Kentucky Racing Commission has called off the fall meetings at Louisville and Lexington and has cut the Latonia autumn meet from 31 to 25 days. It also has agreed to raise the mutual takeout from eight to 10%.

Switching of stake races from Louisville and Lexington to Latonia is given as the reason for granting the increased cut. The Spring meetings lost money and the recent meeting at Latonia only broke about even it is reported.

With a takeout of 10% a race on a daily card of seven races, the track will get all but 30 cents of a dollar that is bet through and added to on a day. The additional cut will also benefit bookies handling Latonia wagers by reducing odds less than the payoff limit of 2, 8, and 4 to 1 on win, place and show and the parley limit of 50 to 1.

### Pathe Coast Tourney

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

RKO-Pathe studio mob plans the inauguration of a yearly golf tourney.

Starter is set for Aug. 23 at Rancho, with all on the lot, from office boys up, competing.

# SLATS GETS PLENTY SLAPS FROM MAXIE

By JACK PULASKI

The Rosenbloom met the Slattery, same from Buffalo, at Ebbets Field last week and easily retained his light heavyweight title. Jimmie merely looked like that Slattery who a few years ago was touted as a sure champ and he didn't act anything like a first rater. Maybe he copped one round and an observer gave him two by the slenderest of margins. It's nearer the truth that he failed to grab any. Charlie Murray, his own manager, gave 'em all to Rosie.

It was a tame show compared to Jimmy Johnson's previous card, topped by Walker and Sharkey. The fans stayed away, attendance approximately only about 7,000. That's rather poor for a title event. The top price of $10 seemed to be twice what the bout figured to be worth.

Rosenbloom is notoriously a light hitter and usually slaps opponents off balance. He must have slapped Slats 500 times, generally on the face and schnozzle. Jimmie is also a cream puff hitter. He is credited with a win or two from Maxie, but that was in his home spot. An egg with a long distance voice called out about the 10th round: "We'll tell the Seabury Commission about you two guys.

Slattery was inclined to fight dirty. He heeled Maxie and when they broke he straight-armed the Harlemite, turning his head aside, getting no credit for the rough stuff. Slats would hold around the neck with the left and pummel the back of Rosie's dome until the latter squawked. It was easily Slat's best blow.

A fighter cannot win fights without leading, unless he be a jolty counter hitter. Slattery didn't lead and he showed so little ability that he can be scratched as a title contender. Maybe it was the heat, and it sure was hot. Betting odds were 8/5 on Rosie, but on the day of the match the odds switched back and forth, with Slats once the favorite at three to two.

### Benny Leonard Back

The most interesting event was the announcement that Benny Leonard, retired lightweight champ, would return to the ring this summer. Benny was there with his new manager, Doc Jack Kearns, and Teddy Hayes. They chatted with the sports writers. Leonard hopped into the ring when the announcement was made and got a much bigger reception than either of the principals.

Benny has been in training for the last three months. He told Kearns and Hayes that if he could make a comeback, in their opinion, he'd like to mix again. They decided he could make the grade. The surprising angle is that Hayes says Benny will appear in a major fight next month (September). His first fight will be in Dayton in about three weeks, with the second probably in Detroit, before making a re-entry in New York.

The why of Leonard's return caused some speculation, and the real reason may be sugar. It is claimed, however, Benny is amply protected financially. Visitors to his training camp were professional men and other citizens of standing. That's the kind of people with whom he made friends before retiring as champ, which certainly did the fight game no harm.

While training for Sharkey, Mickey Walker and Leonard mixed it for four rounds. They were told they were on their own. Benny so easily handled Mickey who could not land a blow on Leonard, that Kearns and Hayes decided he certainly would do.

# Picture Polo Team Shelves Celebrities For Better Scores

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Picture execs have come to the conclusion they can't run their polo like they run the studios. It has been decided that playing form comes ahead of studio payroll position in future matches played by the Los Indios club, comprising all picture names.

Series of five terrific beatings at Santa Barbara decided the issue, after the club came to the verge of disbanding.

Heretofore, first team of the club was composed of the most prominent members, their current earning power and position being the criterion. This mob, being the organizers, had the arbitrary yes or no as to who should play.

Inquests after the trouncings at Santa Barbara, and the squawks from the better mallet swingers who didn't play, finally resulted in giving the coach of the outfit autonomous control from now on.

He'll pick the teams, hereafter, with the four-figure boys sitting on the sideline to watch the better players ride the ponies.

# 50c Banquet

(Continued from page 47)

thought I'd been through everything. I've been stranded in South America, I used to be an eccentric acrobatic dancer till I fell and injured byself so I can never do that kind of work again; I worked in pictures and got klieg eyes. And now this. Poor Kevitt, he thought it would help me. Help me! His leaving me that way. I can't bring myself to believe it. We were going to be married. We'd been together for a year and a quarter. We met at the St. Paul Hotel, where we were both staying at first. We had some money then, but after a while when we were so flat broke we couldn't even buy a can of beans at the delicatessen some days, at least we had each other.

"We'd go out every morning looking for work. Each day making the rounds ended the same—nothing doing. Maybe tomorrow. Nobody realized how desperate our plight was except the ones who couldn't afford to realize it. Whenever we raised some money, we'd put it against our hotel bills like fools. What for, I'd like to know, when I was put out of the St. Paul Hotel for a $42 bill after living there for three and a half years. New management. Kevitt couldn't bear to owe anybody.

"Funny, every time I hear 'The End of a Perfect Day' something terrible happens to me. The day Kevitt took that stuff I was taking care of a girl friend who was sick. I turned on the radio and the first thing that came over was that song. I got scared. I couldn't leave the girl, I thought, and I was ashamed to ask her to let me use her phone to call him. You know how it is when you haven't a nickel; you don't want to ask for the use of the phone.

### Cat Was Fed

"They told me at my hotel afterwards he came here to bring some food for my cat and then he must have gone back to his place and taken those tablets. No matter how bad things were with us, Kitty always ate. And only the day he did it I was thinking to myself, 'I'm going down to the Astor. There isn't a headwaiter in the place who doesn't know me. They ought to. I've brought them plenty of business in my time. I was going to ask them to give me the scraps that were left on the serving plates. They couldn't refuse me that. They'd only threw them out anyway. I remember how I used to leave over parts of my orders—then.

"Since it came out in the papers—no, I wouldn't let them take my picture—men call me up here all the time. One boy phones me every day and asks me to go dancing with him. Dancing! I keep telling him this is tragedy for me. I guess he thinks it's a publicity stunt. A man called and said he was going to South America and would like to have me go with him. He said he was 65 but could take good care of me anyway. They write me letters saying they want to help me, but they all want me to meet them first.

"I don't know what's going to happen next. I can't think. Since he's gone I don't care."


NEW YORK THEATRES

COOL CAPITOL 2ND LAFF WEEK! MARIE DRESSLER Polly MORAN in "POLITICS" On stage—Variety Revue Capitolians, Bunchuk Orch. B'WAY & 51st St.

ROXY 50th St. & 7th Ave. WILL ROGERS as the lady killer in "Young As You Feel" with Fifi Dorsay—Lucien Littlefield. On the Stage—"Songs of Love" in 6 scenes.. "Marches of the World."

FRED & ADELE ASTAIRE HELEN BRODERICK FRANK MORGAN TILLY LOSCH in THE BAND WAGON The Perfect Revue "A grand amusement, with contagious melodies, enchantment, hilariously funny episodes which make it a spellbound revue—a hit."—Winchell, Daily Mirror. NEW AMSTERDAM W. 42d St. Eves. 8:30 Mts. Wed. & Sat., 2:30

BEATRICE LILLIE and ERNEST TRUEX THIRD LITTLE SHOW MUSIC BOX Thea., 45 St., W. of B'way CI. 4-6160. Eves. 8.30. Mats. Today-Sat.

RKO MAYFAIR Bway & 47th Cont. Show Always Cool Wandering Men—Wondering Wives TRAVELING HUSBANDS with EVELYN BRENT HUGH HERBERT

PALACE 47th St. & B'way Mats. Daily, 2.30. 4th BIG WEEK LOU HOLTZ | KATE SMITH | WILLIAM GAXTON LYDA ROBERTI LEW POLLACK & CO.

58th ST. Bet. Lexington & 3d Ave. 11 a. m. to 11 p. m. Wednesday to Friday, Aug. 12 to 14 LEW AYRES JOAN BENNETT in "MANY A SLIP" "A LADY from NOWHERE" with ALICE DAY

86th ST. Cor. Lexington Ave. Wednesday to Friday, Aug. 12 to 14 LEW AYRES JOAN BENNETT in "MANY A SLIP" Brems, Fritz & Murphy Bros.

ZIEGFELD FOLLIES Glorifying the American Girl GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH ZIEGFELD THEATRE, 54th St. & 6th Ave. Coolest Spot in New York Only Theatre Cooled by Frigid Air! Entire Balcony $1 to $3—No Tax Mats. Thurs. & Sat., $1 to $3. No Tax.


### Embassy Quick Flop

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Embassy cafe, under the Planters hotel, folded after several weeks of no business.

Leonard Leon, formerly at the Green Mill, took it on the chin here.

VARIETY
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## 15 YEARS AGO

*(From Variety and Clipper)*

B. S. Moss leased the Broadway theatre, New York, from the Mastbaum people of Philadelphia and announced that he would install a vaude policy there.

The state of Michigan suddenly started to enforce the law against appearance of children under 16 on the stage. Law had been on the books for years.

Martin Beck arranged the tour over the Orpheum Circuit so that only loss of time to actors playing it was three days between Portland and Frisco.

Legit season opened in New York with promise. Four new shows the same night: "Cheating Cheaters," "Seven Chances," "Yvette" and "The Silent Witness."

The estate of Al Ringling, one of the famous circus family, was announced as $700,000.

Anna Pavlowa, now deceased, engaged by Charles Dillingham to bring from Europe her complete company of dancers to the New York Hippodrome for a run.

Irene Franklin took a half page in "Variety" to tell the world that she refused to join the N. V. A. and that both she and Burton Green (her husband and now deceased) were White Rats in good standing.

The late Harry Houdini went up to Sing Sing prison and amazed prisoners and wardens by breaking out of every cell he was locked into. Also broke out of the dungeon.

Atlantic City hotels and concessions were doing a land office business. Resort was frequented by many foreign emissaries over here to buy war supplies.

## 50 YEARS AGO

*(From Clipper)*

A complete minstrel show was given every summer night aboard a large three deck iron steamboat which ran between Philadelphia and Cape May, N. J.

Circus men representing all the bigger shows, gathered for a pow wow at Richmond. They agreed on non-conflicting routes in the south and also on no cutting of admission.

The Peabody hotel in Philadelphia, rather spiffy then, advertised for high class performers to stop there and offered room and board, single, for $10 a week.

A Berlin theatre owner in order to overcome the terrific heat of that summer, opened his theatre at 6:30 a. m. and did an almost capacity business.

"Roxy, or the Pet of the Mines" was the title of a melodrama very popular west of Chicago at this time. Five companies playing the show.

McIntyre and Heath minstrels were booked to start their third annual tour. Besides the regular troupe they carried a singing quartet and musical team.

Craze for diamonds in rings, studs and earrings was at its height in New York among the profession. Unless one sported a big "flasher," not considered in the money.

The French comedian Got was the richest funster of the time. His income was said to be $25,000 a year. He was the only actor decorated by the French government while still on the stage.

The Clipper had to add four extra pages on account of heavy advertising of actors announcing their coming seasons engagements.

What is called red hot and full of pep in soubrets today was then called dashing and stylish.

# Inside Stuff—Pictures

Lee Marcus as president of a picture producing organization (RKO-Pathe) made a departure on his recent return trip to the coast studios. Out and back he stopped off at Toronto, Buffalo, Chicago, Kansas City, Dallas, New Orleans and Atlanta. It's seldom branch exchanges of a film company see the head of the corporation right in their midst. Marcus' visits in person must have been pretty much of a riot all along the line, not only to the RKO-Pathe bunches but to the other sales groups and local exhibitors.

Before becoming president of the new Pathe, Marcus was general sales manager for Radio Pictures. He had come up from the salesmen's ranks and was chosen by Hiram Brown to lead RKO-Pathe when Brown decided to buy the assets of the old Pathe for RKO.

Marcus said some time ago he thought a company's head with home offices in New York should do two things as a regular repertoire; to visit the company's studios and to visit its branches and its customers on the way out and back to the coast wherever possible. It sounded pretty good but Marcus hadn't been the Pathe pres so very long at that time. No one doubted but that he would see the studios often enough but an unexpressed thought was he would forget the way stations. He didn't though and his first stopoffs have occurred within eight months since RKO-Pathe started to actively operate.

A former salesman now president who drops in all over to talk to the boys as he did before and before he became a prexy must be a terrific good will and ginger maker for the field workers. The boys in the field usually believe the home office never gives them a thought except to bawl about sales.

Deal between David Selznick and Lewis Milestone is reported very elastic, with Milestone agreeing to tie up with S lznick on independent production venture if the latter can find suitable story material for him. As it stands, Milestone has not severed his connections with Hughes, nor is that likely until the S-M arrangement is more concrete.

Milestone's arrangement with Hughes is for a 50-50 split with Hughes on all profits from his pictures after the production cost has been deducted.

"Front Page," first picture on which this arrangement has been applied, has about paid for itself. During production Hughes gave Milestone a $30,000 advance, which has to be made up before they start splitting.

This arrangement, while attractive to Milestone when it was made, has irked Milestone because of the slowness of returns.

Friendship between Milestone and Hughes is one of those Sgt. Quirk-Capt. Flagg things, with both alternately burning and idolizing each other.

Friends of both claim that even if the Selznick-Milestone production plans materialize Milestone will still have a hand in the Hughes organization.

Shoestring producer who made an African native picture in Griffith park, Los Angeles, found himself the pitiable object of the week, when $40,000 was dangled in front of him, but withheld because he had oversold his picture.

Playing downtown to good business, the picture had one of the major companies ready to buy as is. An agent sent to get the film was given a wild story on how the picture was made, including identification of the explorer in the film as a Sir Somebody who was still in the depths of the jungle.

Sir Somebody in reality was the shoestringer wearing a muff. Agent noticed the resemblance and remarked on this, with explanation from the producer that he was his cousin. Just before the papers were signed, the agent casually inquired how the producer got the coin for the picture. Producer said his cousin put up the dough for a half interest.

Agent immediately halted the deal, saying that as another person has an interest in the film the deal can't be put through without transferring the explorer's interest.

Now the shoestringer is between the devil and the deep, wondering whether to tell the agent the picture is a phony and that he was the muff wearer or take a chance on getting back his coin by the slower method of state righting.

Hays' organization on the coast makes much of the Fred Girnau conviction and takes pride in industry organization on securing the stiff sentence for the publisher-editor of "The Coast Reporter," because of his attacks on Clara Bow. Girnau drew consecutive jail terms aggregating eight years plus a $1,000 fine.

Blackmailers' attacks on what has constituted, heretofore, the most vulnerable points of a theatrical personality—i. e., his or her reputation—are now nullified through refusal for hush-money, although the Hays-ites recall what it did for Arbuckle, the late Mabel Normand, at one time, and others, just because of public opinion that where there's smoke there's fire. Those were the days when picture people ran for cover under any attack, no matter how ill-founded, with the scavenger sheets collecting in all cases.

In the Bow-Girnau matter the "Coast Reporter" publisher was hooked on a flank attack, that of using the mails illegally. He wasn't contested, refuted or convicted on the scurillous allegations.

"Variety" is a trade paper of the show business so it does not always go into details concerning reports. This relates to comment last week in this department upon the run of the current Palace, New York, vaude bill intact, and the presumed benefit to the attendance through increased advertising space in the New York dailies by the theatre.

A story mentioning an unusual run of any attraction in a trade paper carries with it, minus explanation, that the attraction itself is capable of drawing or it could not endure for a run. The Palace show is a hit by itself but its run possibilities have been greatly benefitted by the advertising.

Some queries from readers outside the theatre have asked if the Palace comment inferred that advertising, only, extended the run of the Palace bill.

"Hell's Angels" has given birth to still another pup at Caddo. Attempting to use leftovers of the air picture, Howard Hughes decided to make "Sky Devils." Finally all leftovers were thrown out and it was decided to make the picture anyway. Then complications arose and "Devils" was halted.

Meanwhile Louis Milestone, Dashil Hammett, Tom Buckingham and Robert Sherwood were put on at different times as a rewriting force. When they got through the studio found it had a complete new air story. This four-way yarn will now be made as "Cock of the Air," with Billie Dove, and "Sky Devils" will proceed on its original story motif.

All four writers will go on the credit sheet of "Air." Additionally, Buckingham will direct and Milestone supervise.

Local newsreel war is raging merrily in St. Paul with two theatres and pair of newspapers the contenders.

Ray O'Connell, RKO, tied up with the "Dispatch" a month ago and copped a lot of free space in return for plugging the daily on the screen. Ed Furni, across the street at the Paramount, then arranged a similar deal with the "News" and also tied in city officials to furnish tips. Result is that both sheets are outdoing themselves in a publicity way to establish their newsreels and theatres are copping space aplenty.

Sam Goldwyn's picturization of "Street Scene," just completed, is reported the closest attempt yet made to transfer a stage play to the screen as is. All scenes are in the one street, as was the case of the stage piece, although, with the wider scope of the camera it was possible to show more of the street.

It has been the first time since talkers that the adaptation was entrusted to the play author, in this case Elmer Rice. The dialog is almost 100% from the play script.

Eight members of the New York cast are in the lineup, the only picture personalities being Estelle Taylor, Sylvia Sydney and William Collier, Jr.

Roxy theatre is to try a departure in its advertising which is intended to give big spaces and still save money. The idea is to stagger the displays and use one inch ads the remainder of the time. On the schedule as worked out the N. Y. "Herald Tribune" and "Mirror" will get a 116 by 2 the day before the opening. This will be repeated in the "World Telegram" and "Journal" in the afternoon. The following day the display ad runs in the "Times" and "News" in the morning and the "Sun" and "Graphic" in the afternoon. Only the "American" gets a large Sunday space.

Figured that all New Yorkers read more than one paper daily and that all can be reached doubly through the stagger.

Some of the theatre boys are in the midst of a minor campaign to do away with the white borders on titles used by the Paramount newsreel. Operating contingent want the fencing eliminated because it gives the screen a "keystone" of various degrees. By "keystone" is meant that the border is wider at the bottom than at the top throwing the titles out of proportion.

All screens are subject to it according to the angle of projection; the steeper the throw the wider the picture at the bottom. Reason the theatre men want the borders done away with is so the disproportion will not be emphasized to the audience. Pathe News is also using borders, top and bottom, but none on the sides.

In an effort to lop off some distribution overhead, Paramount will probably eliminate the provision of extra main titles on all features and shorts which are being sent to all the company's branches for replacement purposes in an emergency.

A check to cover an entire year was made through one of the exchanges, Par finding that in only three instances were the additional main titles used.

In view of the cost of supplying these, the company has notified all the branches to check on titles to determine whether they can't be dispensed with.

E. J. Carpenter, manager of a Fanchon and Marco unit, tells an inside story on a male film star. He says that Dare Pringle, a young actress who joined a stock company which he managed many years ago, left her husband and a year old child to accept the engagement. A few weeks afterward she told the story to Carpenter, who also was acquainted with the husband. About a year later the family was reunited and continued playing with the company.

The baby was kept in a cradle backstage until he was able to totter about. About 25 years later the baby became John Gilbert.

RKO was asked to change its radio hour by its own showmen at the meeting in New York last week of the RKO division managers. They told James Turner the radio hour he had set for RKO in the east, 10:30 until 11 at night, was all wrong, not only in the east but anywhere else.

That eastern daylight saving hour operates in Chicago at 9:30, and so on. In New York the RKO radio time is against theatre patronage, also since it advertises for people to remain home to listen in.

Turner failed to impress the showmen with his arguments in favor of the radio time he had selected.

It paralyzed the Orpheum, L. A., in connection with a publicity stunt by George Brown, the RKO division exploitation director, just how many professionals fall for a screen test tie-up in the hopes of thus getting a break. It was in connection with "Common Law" that Brown staged a beauty model contest with Henry Clive, the artist, one of the judges, and a Pathe screen test as first prize. There were also $50 in cash prizes and an oil painting by Clive. Applicants included picture bit people, ex-legit and stock troupers, et al., all willing to complete with the amateurs, counting on the screen test as a break if they cop.

Owing to the peculiar relationship existing between the former advertising and publicity head of a western theatre chain, and a coast division manager of the same circuit, each is doing work for the other on his own company's time.

Other staff members, for example, see the theatre chain's artist making drawings on an unaffiliated studio's pictures, with the circuit's division manager's okay, just because that picture is from the studio now employing the pub. and adv. man.

Picture making by Negro capital is again hitting the bottom. A few recent attempts to manufacture a number of features proved flat failures.

Another case where white backing and a colored producer and director turned out an original story with an all-Negro cast didn't meet with much success when offered as film fare in the Negro houses.

The movement, while considered worth while by the colored people, held possibilities but no profit. And the Negro houses seem to draw best with white pictures with white casts.

Permanent instructions have been issued by Paramount on the handling of Publix theatre accounts when playing Par pictures. No change noted on advance film rental except, where not now included, estimates of percentage engagements are to figure. Flat rentals are included as well.

When film shipments are cancelled, after listing on a special form to be sent to the home office, a letter follow-up is now required to be sent to G. B. J. Frawley, listing such eliminations.

Fox managers have been warned against a slicker who is collecting through the use of split bills. A $10 and $1 are split and the two halves pasted together with the bill pushed through the window with the $10 side up. Several are reported to have been passed. Some years ago there was quite a run on split bills, but they dropped out of sight for a time. Sharper makes a profit of $9 on two bills, less the cost of two tickets.

Some day Oscar Hansen may come in for a slice of money. Right now he couldn't see a job that paid him $125 a week for being credited with the idea that created the job. That's Hansen and the Allied Newsreel.

The proposition got so big and was able at the same time to so handle itself that Oscar wasn't worth much over a century to Allied. Insiders say, however, that Hansen will get his in a lump if the reel materializes.

"Confessions of a Co-Ed" has finally been passed by the Virginia censors with drastic cuts. What remains for Virginia is not as close to the real thing as near beer.

In case anyone wonders why the screen image is permitted to lap over on the black border in all theatres, it's to keep the edges sharp. After

(Continued on page 57)

# USING DUMMIES TO BUY ACTORS CHEAPER

A new way of getting actors cheap is reported being tried and it concerns a major theatrical firm. Idea is to have a stager of less known showman presumably produce the shows, with instructions to sign up people at much less money than they formerly commanded. The theory is that players will make a concession for a new manager trying to make the grade.

The name of the actual backer is supposed to be under cover and the firm's name is not to be used in the billing. The fellow who does the work would be on a percentage, if he falls for that. One stager was told to go ahead, but he failed to get anything on paper and suddenly he was told the show was off. He had signed contracts at the hoped for lower levels and found himself responsible for a week's salary. He is now suing the firm.

Another stager was approached with the same line, but was too cagy and walked out.

## 1ST 5 TRYOUTS BREAK 3-2, BUT NONE LANDS

New season's start took a light sock on the chin in the past two weeks when three tryouts, intended for Broadway, closed. Two others were named for revision before coming in.

"All Women Are" (Johnnie Walker), "Imported From Paris" (Abe Halle), and "Manhattan Nocturne" (Wm. Brady, Sr.) passed out.

"Love's Out Of Fashion" (Shuberts), and "Candle In Sky" (Wm. Brady, Jr.) may try again.

## Advance Sale Light

Atlantic City, Aug. 10.

Advance sale on "Vanities" and "Scandals" not very brisk. Apollo reports about $10,000 demand for the Carroll revue while Garden Pier gives $20,000 sale ahead for White show. "Scandals" tops "Vanities" $2 for opening night and $1 for remainder of run.

Apollo matinees will be Wednesday and Friday, Garden Pier Wednesday and Saturday.

## Yale Boys to Try

A group of Yale graduates, banding together, have turned legit producers, forming Midtown Productions, Inc. They have leased the Princess, small seater on 39th street.

Presently the Yale men are behind a little theatre movement in Arden, Pa. One of the shows said to be planned by them is "Patience," written by a student of Prof. Baker's class, and shown at Yale.

## "Wonder Bar" Again In 4 Wks. with Jolson

The Shuberts may try to bring back to life the Al Jolson production of "Wonder Bar" in about four weeks. Several actors in the show when it played at the Bayes have been told that it will go through in about that time and to stand by.

Understanding is that Jolson is willing.

## Grace George's Play

William A. Brady has finally found a play for his wife, Grace George, and will start production work on it immediately. It is "She Went to the Cupboard," by Earle Crooker and will go into the Playhouse late in September.

"She Went to the Cupboard" was tried out in Skowhegan, Me., recently.

### Leads for "Cherries"

Basil Sydney and Mary Ellis are set for the top roles in "Cherries Are Ripe" which Arch Selwyn is preparing for New York in October. "Cherries" will go into either the Gaiety or Times Square with latter most likely.

Vilma Banky and Rod La Roque, from pictures, had the play out on the road all of last season.

## PERCY AMES DRUNK?

### Arrested in Mass., Charged With Driving That Way

Hyannis, Mass., Aug. 10.

Percy F. Ames, 59, who gave his address as the Lambs' Club, New York, was arrested Wednesday night on charges of drunkenness and driving an automobile while under the influence of liquor.

Arraigned in court Thursday morning, Ames' charge of drunkenness was continued to Aug. 12 when a further charge of drunken driving will be preferred, according to Police Chief Pratt.

Ames was arrested after a collision between his car and another automobile. Police said Ames' car sidewiped the other stripping its left side. According to police, Ames kept going, but was taken into custody a few blocks away.

## ENGLISH PLAYS FOR 20 WEEKS IN CANADA

Imported English companies playing Canada have become an established fact through the joint efforts of George Pacaud and H. Dutrisac, president and vice-president of the Civic Repertory of Montreal, Ltd. These companies are guaranteed their steamship transportation both ways. The Pacaud-Dutrisac interests will guarantee a tour of 20 weeks with money provided in advance for all advertising and publicity.

Heretofore, Canadian theatre managers have reserved the right to cancel a visiting show on a three weeks' notice. This provision has since been cut out of the contracts on demand of the Pacaud-Dutrisac combine.

Dutrisac up to June was manager of His Majesty's, Montreal, but resigned to go into the new project in association with some reputedly financially responsible Montreal people.

The Civic Repertory Co. also contemplates installing British stocks in Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver, etc.

## $22.50 Per Hour on Radio For Some Legit Actors

Some 30 to 50 experienced stage actors are being used weekly by NBC on talking programs and coining $22.50 net each per hour. NBC pays these radio extras $25, but deducts 10% as its commission.

NBC will only use experienced actors on these broadcasts. Whenever NBC is in need of a vocal "type" extra, it goes through its files and sends a call out for the one who fits the role.

A few of the actors who have landed on regular air programs have given up stage work and devoted themselves to radio alone. Program directors also have their stage favs, whom they call upon whenever needed for broadcasts.

The salary of $22.50 per program, which includes a two-hour rehearsal, is for sustaining broadcasts only. For commercials the salary for extras ranges from $50 up.

## Jessel as a Mayor?

"Meet the Mayor" will be the musical the Shuberts are preparing for Georgie Jessel. It's from an old play produced in 1928. Harold Arlen, who wrote the music of "You Said It," has been handed the score assignment.

Play is set to come in the end of October.

## Sommers to Produce

Harry Sommers, former manager of the Avon theatre for the Erlangers has resigned. He's off to Europe for a vacation and will turn producer on his own when he gets back.

## JANE COWL'S CARAVAN

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

Jane Cowl, in "Camille," will follow "On the Spot" for Belasco & Curran at the Belasco. Miss Cowl, now in the east, will bring about 10 players with her.

Understood Miss Cowl is now working on a musical version of "Smilin' Thru," which she wrote with Jane Murfin, with Vincent Youmans on the music. Latter will probably produce.

## Protecting a Widow

One tragedy followed another for at least one "Follies" girl, Emmita Casanova. She was among the group whom Mark Hellinger took to Wall Street to sell tickets for the benefit show today (11) for Helen Walsh's mother.

Miss Casanova phoned home about her sick son to find the youngster had died in Chicago. But she insisted on finishing the day downtown before taking a plane to Chicago.

In Wall Street also were Hal LeRoy, Betty Dumbris, Meredith Howard, Freda Mierse, Elsie Behrens, Patsy O'Day, Laurel McCarver and Ruth Tars.

Harry Richman, upon whose boat Miss Walsh was fatally burned is taking out a policy on his life for $25,000 with Mrs. Walsh the beneficiary. A group including Richman and Hellinger will pay the widow a sum equal to Helen's weekly salary as long as she lives.

## 2 Coast Versions On Cancellations Of Barrymore Play

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

Week of one-nighters booked for Ethel Barrymore in "School for Scandal" between here and San Francisco have been cancelled by the actress, who says she needs a rest. Week had already sold $15,000 in advance with San Diego contributing $4,500 of that for one night. Show closed at the local Biltmore Saturday night (8).

Another version is that the northwest division of Fox-West Coast had canceled several one-nighters after the unfavorable publicity Miss Barrymore received from Denver, and Miss Barrymore crossed out all FWC time in retaliation.

Play is scheduled to open at the Curran, San Francisco, Aug. 17, for two weeks. Northwestern tour was slated to follow 'Frisco.

## MUSIC HALL RUN SHOW AT $2.50 CO-OPERATIVE

A legit show, with its cast composed entirely of vaude players and regarded generally as copying the idea of the Palace, New York, bill that held over for three weeks, has started rehearsals at the Vanderbilt. Palace idea of a vaude-revue-music hall show is further emulated in the legit piece having a $2.50 top.

Show is "Glory Bound," Percy Oakes and Lyle Andrews producing. Willie Heagney has written the music. Walter Brooks is staging, with a cold opening, due Aug. 24 or 31.

Vaude people include Jed Dooley, Ned Norworth, Beth Challis, Renoff and Renova, Von Gronna, George Herman, and S. Fraser.

Only legit touch will be a line up of 12 precision dancers. Show will probably be run on the co-operative basis.

Vanderbilt seats around 850 and at $2.50 can do $15,000 on the week.

## Back to Legit

The President goes back to legit in about three weeks, opening with Henry Rosendale's show "The Widow Is a Virgin."

Theatre was devoted to foreign talkers last season.

## CLOTHES ON THE HOUSE

### Carroll's Box Office Staff With New Suits and Shirts

Lou Berger, at the 46th Street last season, and Willie Metz, treasurer of Hammerstein's, and Chub Munster are the box office staff at the Carroll.

Carroll instructed the box office men to report at a tailoring establishment, where each was outfitted in morning and evening dress. Half a dozen special shirts go to each, all clothes to be on the house. The b. o. people will have special dressing rooms and will be assigned a valet.

# McBride-Postal Buying as One, Claim Over-Buying Preventative; 'Scandals' Asks 32 Wks. Advance

## $17,000 AT BENEFIT

### That Much Expected Today for Helen Walsh's Mother

The special matinee of the "Follies" as a benefit to the widowed mother of Helen Walsh, the show girl who was burned to death when Harry Richman's motor boat blew up last month, will be held this afternoon (Tuesday). Indications were that the proceeds would touch $17,000 considerably in excess of expectations.

The box-office statement will not show the actual takings, because tickets are scaled at the regular $3 two tickets has been received, any money over, the b. o. being a donation. A continuous stream of checks has come to the committee.

Gladys Glad, out of the "Follies" since the tragedy because of shock, was slated to return for the benefit performance. That applies also to Virginia Biddle, also burned. She was released from the hospital last week.

## 'MODISTE' WITH SCHEFF AND EX-HUS, BUS. MGR.

Fritzi Scheff will tour to the coast in "Mlle. Modiste" in which she was originally starred. It will open in Quebec city Sept. 4, then to Montreal with upper New England to follow. Understood most of the dates are guarantees, inclusive of the Canadian stands. Two night stands well predominate, key cities not booked.

The Victor Herbert operetta revival will carry a complement of 52 people. George Anderson, formerly Miss Scheff's husband, is general manager. May Dowling is business manager and goes in advance.

## Broun's Aided Principals Question His Co-op Split

Some of the people in "Shoot the Works," Heywood Broun's effort to relieve some unemployment among professionals, seemed to think that each current Saturday's receipts should be included in pro rata split. At an informal meeting on the stage it was explained that because the company was paid at the Saturday matinee, the night's taking could not possibly be counted in, but had been added to the following week's takings. The matter was settled by the "directors" who decided salaries be paid Monday hereafter.

Another difference was also ironed out last week. Contracts given principals originally stipulated that the split would apply on the gross in excess of $6,000 weekly. On that basis principals figured they should have received about $80 more than they got. It was shown, however, the limit set on operating expense was too low.

Broun, who is receiving no money from the show, told the other players the money was due under the contracts and he would have to pay out of his own pocket. It was agreed to accept $15 extra per principal for the second week. Contracts were changed, leaving the operating expense limit open.

Hot weather forced gross to about $7,000 last week. After the chorus was taken care of there was nothing to pro-rate. Broun therefore dug into his pocket for $1,400, paying principals from $50 to $75 each to hold show together.

### 50% for Split

General plan of splitting up is that 50% of the money in excess of expenses shall be pro-rated, the balance being used for bonuses to the more active players. An objection by the principals to the chorus receiving $5 over the Equity $35 minimum was shunted aside.

Two or all the Marx brothers were slated to go into the show without compensation next week, as a compliment to Broun, their fellow poker player. One or two principals withdrew, their parts being given to choristers. That figured to provide a better split among the principals.

The ticket-buying combination which was in the making during the summer between McBride's and Postal-Leblang is now in operation. It is not a merger of the two important agencies nor a pooling of profits. The plan is to buy tickets as a unit as protective and economic.

In back of the combo is the claim of the brokers concerned that long buys are disastrous to agencies. That particularly applies to McBride's and Postal the former selling at 75 cents advance and the latter at 50 cents premium. Neither can survive if forced to take heavy losses through unsold allotments, or if having to sell high-priced tickets at a sacrifice. Agencies which charge any price the market will stand counterbalance such losses by getting big money for what percentage of the tickets they sell, but also use the long buys as an alibi.

By buying as one, McBride's and Postal figure it a protection against certain managerial practices. The manager cannot play one against the other. That method has frequently forced agencies to make buys against their better judgment. That happened last season after the Theatre League flopped and buys again became more or less prevalent among the hits—also several shows which cost the brokers plenty (notably "America's Sweetheart" and "Wonder Bar"—each a 16 weeks' buy).

### Asks 32 Weeks' Buy

First major attraction that interests McBride-Postal this season is "Scandals," due in a few weeks at the Apollo. Prior to its tryout George White was asking for a 32 week's buy from the ticket men. Last season McBride's refused that proposition for White's "Flying High" and sold no tickets during the height of the run. Later "regulars" were allotted McBride's, and business for the show jumped. Some claimed that the absence of the show's tickets in the agency had an effect on its road business, which was bad despite the Broadway showing. It's almost certain that McBride-Postal will reject such a long buy on "Scandals."

As yet Earl Carroll has not sought a buy for his "Vanities." Same applies for other shows in the group starting the new season.

McBride-Postal say they are not out to corner the market in tickets, but rather the opposite—not to overbuy and be tied down for long periods. How the deal concerns other agencies is not definitely indicated.

## 10 SHOWS FOR FALL SLIP INTO REHEARSAL

Evidencing the first real activity of the season, 10 new shows are slated to start rehearsals this week. Eight of them are musicals, with Shuberts down for two.

Dramatic pieces are "Friendship," Geo. M. Cohan's first, due at the Fulton Aug. 31. Other is "Playing the Game," retitled version of "Judge's Secretary," by Walter Newman, which folded after a tryout last season. Lew Talbot is producing.

Musicals include "Broadmaster" for J. A. White (new). White called off a proposed musical after getting started last season. "Glory Bound" starts at the Vanderbilt, where it opens Aug. 31 week, Percy Oakes producing.

"Singing Rabbi," Boris Thomashevsky piece due in at the Selwyn Sept. 7 also starts rehearsals, as does a road company of "Mlle. Modiste," with Fritzi Scheff starring and George Anderson managing. Ed Wynn's "Laugh Parade" also scheduled.

Although he is reported having rehearsed last week, Will Morrissey, with "Crooner" at the Craig was stated by Equity to be having auditions only, going into rehearsal yesterday (Monday).

# Agents Asking for 5 to 10% Boost On Commish Turned Down by Equity

Equity has turned down a request made by the Theatrical Artist Representatives Ass'n for increased percentages, according to Frank Gillmore. Increase refusal settles the major part of the agent-Equity problem.

Remaining for settlement is adjustment of the number of agents presently holding Equity permits, about 50. Gillmore stated that within the near future, this number will be appreciably cut down, with none of the permit losers to be T. A. R. A. members. Latter has led to the conclusion that all Equity agents may eventually be in the T. A. R. A.

At the same time it was indicated that in the future Equity would not consent to agents drawing higher commissions than that now allowed.

Agents' group requested an increase on specific types of work of from 5% to 10%. Answer by Equity was that their members had had as hard a year as the agents and could not see their way clear to the 10% idea. At the same time, it was pointed out, elimination of a number of agents will give further business to those remaining.

Gillmore stated that Equity, in the past year, has considerably aided the agents through refusal to grant others permits, in that way holding down the number operating but with that number still regarded as too large.

T. A. R. A. met Thursday (6), with Gillmore, Paul Dulzell and Emily Holt, all of Equity, attending. Meeting was stated as harmonious, with one agent saying presence of the Equity officials was regarded as being a smoother in view of the increase disallowance.

Agents previously lost in a legal battle for increased commissions.

## MONEY TROUBLE SHUTS 2 NEW NEAR-SHOWS

Two shows, each rehearsing for several weeks, have stopped trying.

"Fast and Furious," Forbes Randolph's colored revue, was stopped by Equity for lack of bond money. "Widow Is a Virgin," Henry Rosendale and James Doyle, producing, folded Saturday (8) after practicing for two weeks.

Rosendale, who wrote "Virgin," says the closing reason was a walk taken by his backer. In the future, says Rosendale, he'll write them, but won't produce.

"Widow" cast was headed by Sam Ash and Enid Markey. Rosendale had posted 25% of his rights in possible sale to pictures in lieu of cast guarantees, with the play now tied up.

## Shaping Stock Plans

George Sharp, who has offices in New York, plans considerable stock activity this fall. He opens in Pittsburgh around Labor Day, intending to stage a new musical show every four weeks.

Jessie Bonstelle opens at the Playhouse, Detroit, the latter part of August. She had 42 weeks there last season.

Buzz Bainbridge has everything set to open stock in Minneapolis Sept. 6 and in St. Paul in October.

## Cast Changes

Cast changes in "Love's Out of Fashion," first Shubert show of the season, are reported due. One expected is Veree Teasdale, named as going out and into "Cocktail," short Shubert musical. "Love" opened in Atlantic City Monday (3). Jack Sheehan reported engaged for "Cocktail."

### LAIT-GROSS FARCE

Jack Lait and Stephen Gross have written a play called "Reno-vated." As title suggests it's a farce on divorce.

Gross is program director for NBC.

### Two Samuels for Show

Al and Ray Samuels will join "You Said It," Lou Holtz musical when it starts on the road next month in Boston.

## CARROLL OPENING MAY BE DELAYED BY UNIONS

Earl Carroll's plan to open his new theatre Aug. 27 may be set back for several weeks over electrical equipment trouble. First hint of the delay came last week in a suit against the Edison Company to force direct current instead of alternating. Other cause is said to be union trouble over installation of the theatre's permanent electrical equipment.

Union difficulties are between No. 1 of the IA and No. 3 of the Electrical Brotherhood, not affiliated with the IA. Both unions claim installation jurisdiction. No. 3 angle as given, is that since the present equipment is to be permanent, it is within their province to make the installation.

Following the reported union difficulties, one electrical contractor originally set to supply the equipment, withdrew. Cause for withdrawal is given as possible differences with No. 1 on future jobs. Carroll's equipment, it is said, will run to about $20,000.

## Gaiety's Next Legit

First legit show to go into the Gaiety on Broadway will be one of two shows Chester Erskin is due to produce shortly for Erlanger's. Likely incumbent will be "I Love An Aactress," by Fodor.

"Imported From Paris" first neaded for the Gaiety, is out, folding after a tryout.

Since closed as a film window, Gaiety has been revamped and reseated.

## Future Plays

Road tour expected for "Paid Companions," by B. J. McOwen. Charles Blaney will produce, starring Cecil Spooner. Piece flopped on Broadway, but has been revised.

**"Vanity Fair,"** Arthur Klein's musical, reported due for casting Aug. 17.

**"Playing the Game,"** by Walter Newman; Talbot, Inc.

## Fox Buys "Sisters" And Cast Claims Paid

Sale of "Stepping Sisters," long-run legit co-op show, to Fox for talkers, has brought settlement of cast claims against Albert Bannister.

Payment made wipes out all claims on "Sisters," clearing up an arbitration award after the Shuberts and Bannister took the show to Boston, where it did a quick flop. Bannister was held responsible by arbiters when the posted bond proved inadequate to cover money due the cast when play closed.

## 25 Principals in Drama

Benjamin David has bought a play, "Big City." He may produce it in the fall.

The play was written by Joseph Brenner, young engineer, now on his way to Russia, where he will remain for two years.

Cast calls for 75 people, including 25 principals.

## McCurdy's Coast Spots

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

William B. McCurdy, former Duffy manager in Portland, who became the stock producer at the Dufwin last season, will probably double into Seattle this year.

He plans taking over the Metropolitan theatre, Seattle, last season operated by A. C. Bainbridge.

### Cook and Concert Tour

Joe Cook is said to be contemplating a concert tour, to take place after the coming season.

He reopens in "Fine and Dandy" around Sept. 1 in Newark.

## ERSKIN'S 5 PLAYS

### Three for Erlangers and Two for Theatre Guild—"Actress" First

Chester Erskin's schedule for the new season, just completed, calls for five plays to be done alternately for the Erlanger office and the Theatre Guild. A play for the Erlangers will lead off, that office getting three and the Guild two.

First play will be "I Love an Actress," from the Hungarian by Lazlo Fodor, which Erskin adapted. It is being cast and goes into rehearsal Monday (17).

"He," by Alfred Savoir, which Erskin adapted from the French, goes in for the Theatre Guild, next, with "Child," by Leopold Atlas, following for Erlangers. Then will come "Sons of God," by Paul and Claire Sifton, for the Guild, and finally "Bull Market," about the stock exchange, for Erlangers.

"Bull Market" is being rewritten, with a possibility of its being dropped from the schedule if not coming through. Other scripts are ready and set.

## Names on Road

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

Belasco & Curran will send Billie Burke on the road in "Vinegar Tree" following its run at the Curran, San Francisco, where it is scheduled to end Aug. 22.

Piece will open in Portland the following week with 14 weeks following in Washington, Oregon, Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas. It's the first legit attraction going through that territory in two years, with exception of Ethel Barrymore, who opened her western tour of "School for Scandal" at the Denham, Denver, two weeks ago.

## Promise More Legit For Mpls. This Year

Minneapolis, Aug. 10.

Legit houses here are promising stiffer competition against pictures this fall and winter. Indications point to a larger number of road show bookings than at any time in the past several years. Also, the Shubert is to reopen with Bainbridge dramatic stock and the Gayety with burlesque stock.

A considerable number of bookings already made by E. A. Stein, new manager of the Twin City Metropolitans. Included are five Theatre Guild productions, Ethel Barrymore, William Gillette, "The Admirable Crichton," "As You Desime Me," "The House Beautiful and "Tomorrow and Tomorrow." The first definite booking is for the week of Oct. 1. Stein is in New York now trying to land some attractions for September.

Hugh Andress, of the Lyceum, says he will have some legit road show bookings, thinking he still has a chance to get the Theatre Guild shows away from the Metropolitan. He has had them for the past two seasons.

## Died a Bankrupt

Denver, Aug. 10.

William J. Carter, owner of the Sante Fe theatre, who died last year, and believed to have left an estate of $250,000, according to a suit filed by the Denver National Bank, died a bankrupt. Claims and mortgages have appeared to the amount of $350,000.

Suit is for the purpose of forcing the widow to turn back to the estate property worth $20,000.

## Mosconi as Wynn Stager?

Louis Mosconi is in New York for a short visit during which time he may put on all the dances for the forthcoming Ed Wynn musical.

Louis, with his brother, Charley, formerly the famous Mosconi brothers dancing team, went to California a year ago and opened a dancing school. Charley is running the place while Louis is east.

### Musical Cyrano Picked

Fortunio Bononova will get the lead in the Shubert's projected musical version of "Cyrano de Bergerac." Play about the lad with the champion schnozzola will get a score from Samuel Polcrass and will be ready for showing about November.

Bononova is scheduled on the road in "Melo," with Shuberts planning to jerk him out of that for the musical when ready.

## CO-OP REVUE LINGERS, STEAMS L. A. LAYOFFS

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

Sid Grauman, Franklin Warner, Edward Hogarty and other local legit producers are being propositioned by layoffs with the co-operative idea for musical revues. Desire comes from the success of "Nine O'Clock Revue," co-op musical which has been running at the Music Box four weeks.

Producers have gone thumbs down on the promoters, figuring that the "Nine O'Clock Revue" is a miracle. It's the first co-op which hasn't folded after the first week here.

## Music Box Show Prepared

The new Music Box Revue is due to start in about six weeks. Irving Berlin and Moss Hart have been working on the book and songs, with scripts ready for Sam Harris to proceed on casting.

Lulu McConnell and Andrew Tombes go with the show. Joe Frisco may be another. Harris says he would like Hassard Short to stage with Albert Johnson doing the scenery. Both are unlikely, however, if Harris sticks to his present time schedule, since Max Gordon has the same duo for his new musical comedy for the Globe "The Passionate Pilgrim."

## Another "Hamlet"

Another modern version of "Hamlet" is being prepared for New York, this time by Norman Bel Geddes, scenic designer.

John Daly Murphy will play the title part with Cecilia Johnson as Ophelia. Both are from the London stage.

Play is scheduled to open in Philadelphia Oct. 19 for a two-week stay, coming in to New York for a run, probably at the 44th Street.

## 'Little Show' 25% Cut

A 25% cut of salaries of the principles in "Third Little Show" became effective Saturday (8). Revue started off well, but business dropped when the long heat wave started. Though designed as a summer show it is expected the engagement at the Music Box will extend into November.

## Aviators and Flying As Fresh Play Cycle

Aviators may start a new cycle on Broadway. At least two plays about air lads are being shaped for quick production, with several others looking for a place to light.

First to open will probably be "Zoom," by John B. Hymer and William E. Barry. Play was tried out in Skowhegan recently, with Shuberts buying in after looking it over there. May schedule in as a vehicle for Roger Pryor.

Another aviation play being readied is "Sky Racket," by Phillip Dunning and Lou Reilly. It deals with a couple of round-the-world flyers and their manager.

### ADAPTOR TO DIRECT

J. J. Robbins will direct his own adaptation of "The Cricket on the Hearth," by Dickens, planned by Vanguard for October.

At the same time a play about Dickens (musical) is being prepared for production by Frank C. Reilly.

## TENT-REP SHOWS AT CLEANERS

Tent and rep shows are being washed up.

That is indicated by Equity, which is abandoning its Kansas City office, which heretofore had handled that branch of the association's activities.

There are approximately 125 shows of the type, whereas there were between 300 and 400 formerly. Business in the rural districts has been particularly bad in the past two years. Drought and distress among the farmers were the main factors in the decline of the tent outfits. Talking pictures are perhaps a more positive cause, farmers going to towns and cities in cars. Contrast between high-class screen acting and the lowly tent companies appears to have educated the hicks.

There are some progressive rep shows which continue to command excellent attendance, but they are far in the minority. The average tent outfit is the same as it was 15 years ago, with the same type of toby comedian and the same routine, regardless of what the attraction is. That doubtless has bored the rurals no end.

The tent and reps will be handled out of Equity's Chicago office, which has handled part of the field in nearby states. Frank Delmaine of the Kansas City office will join Frank Dare, Chicago rep for Equity.

## $800,000 Set as Present Valuation of Belasco

Katherine Cornell will take tenancy of the Belasco theatre Sept. 21. To guarantee the obligations of the lease $50,000 has been placed in escrow by the Katherine Cornell Productions, the corporate name under which she and Guthrie McClintic produced "The Barretts of Wimpole Street." No plan to move that show to the Belasco, but later on Miss Cornell proposes to establish a repertory there.

Conditions of the lease requires the payment of the interest on a mortgage of $295,000, also to assume taxes and other costs. No set rental is said to have been named, the Belasco estate to receive 20% of the net profit. Miss Cornell has the privilege of purchasing the Belasco any time up to March 31, 1934, at a price of $800,000.

## 35 Weeks on Road

Milton Aborn's light opera company leaves Erlanger's Sept. 5, going to the road with seaside resorts played first. Booking of 35 weeks in 14 stands during the new season.

Aborn's revival of "The Merry Widow" will follow in at Erlanger's, with Donald Brian and others of the original cast. Other revivals are to follow.

## "Ladies All" Tour

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

"Ladies All," the Perry Askam show which closed three weeks at the Hollywood Playhouse Saturday, goes into the Broadway in Denver next Monday (17). A. M. Oberfelder is guaranteeing the show four grand on the week.

Ed Hogarty and Ed Rowland figure on following with road dates in the northwest with a San Francisco stand a possibility.

## Inside Stuff—Legit

Joe Fisher, the showman from Singapore, is sure show-hungry. He walked into Postal-Leblang's last week, and, explaining that he would be in New York 29 nights, desired tickets for 29 shows. He was told there were only 12 shows playing and he said if no new good shows arrived during his stay he'd repeat four or five times at some of them.

Tickets ordered included the Palace each Sunday night.

Actors still study Shakespeare.

Seems not one of the most typical Broadway type who can't spout Shakespearean lines if called for. They pride themselves on it.

The fresher the actor from dramatic school the more or less they know, but they all know some Shakespeare.

One less in the legit producing ranks is due to happen with Arthur Lubin, formerly an indie and later with Ray-Minor, out of the presenting class and into the directing.

Financing and scarcity of directors Lubin's reasons for the change.

# Plays Out of Town

## WRONG SIDE OUT

Seattle, Aug. 2.

Three act comedy drama, by Howard Miller, who also played the male lead. Staged by Powers-Miller Players, President theatre, George Clarke, Manager.

CAST

Lena .....Ada Daniels
Sarah Madison.....Leona Powers
Clifton Wentworth.....Howard Miller
William Wentworth.....Frances Sayles
Doris Ellington.....Rita Boland
Lily Wentworth.....Georgia Neese
Claire Wentworth.....Mary Vance
Emil Vardo.....Gale Gordon
Todd Demarest.....Ted Osborn

This comedy by Howard Miller, best known as an actor, marks his debut as a playwright. He seems to have landed to a fair start. Miller is a local fav as leading man and Leona Powers (Mrs. Miller) is likewise liked here.

Story is nothing unusual. There is a pretty fair old dad, who has made gobs of money; a mother who steps out on papa and falls for an adventurer, Emil Vardo, portrait painter; a son who drinks and gambles and then gets the urge to do something, so tries for a job from dad; a daughter who is plenty silly and wants to live her life, but who quickly sees the error of her love; a governess, Sarah Madison, who makes up drab and droll, ("wrong side out") and then gradually becomes herself; and Doris Ellington, a guest who is a professional week-ender.

Action is in the Wentworth country place somewhere on Long Island. It all happens from Friday to Monday a. m. No change of set required. It played smother first night than most such affairs do out in the sticks. But needs some more smoothing, which it should get as it progresses. Diverting with the dirt not too messy.

Howard Miller essays double role of author and actor, with either a pretty fair job for one person. Miss Boland flung her arms about a bit too much, but otherwise showed she belonged. Gordon his usual calm as the bad heart-breaker and playboy artist. Leona Powers good in the part she essays. Miss Vance and Frances Sales steered a clear, heady course through the "modern" drinking, cussing and wise cracking. *Trepp.*

## MEDICINE TENT

Hollywood, Aug. 1.

Produced by Ralph Herman's Play Shop, 80 seats on a platform in a loft on Santa Monica boulevard, this one is above the arty amateur standards, but 'way below present-day professional stamp.

"Medicine Tent" is of a show prop whose son is being educated as a doctor and thinks his dad is a mine owner. Boy does his own crossing by flunking and playing the joy boy without pop's knowledge.

Long arm of coincidence takes the kid to them thar hills of Kaintuck' where the natives talk like mammy songwriters spell. There he does wrong by little Becky, the landlord's daughter. As he is about to ease north, her father tells about the killing down to the crossroads, where another Yankee was punctured for similar practices. He marries the girl, but not before uttering a cuss-word heretofore absent from the American stage, as a first-act curtain line.

Two years later the father's medicine show hits the town. The

(Continued on page 60)

# 2 Indie Cut-Raters Braving Chi August Improve $1,000 Each

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Blithely superior to mere heat, both "High Hat" at the Adelphi, and "Stepping Sisters," Blackstone, had their grosses boosted at least a grand over the previous stanza, with each optimistic of holding on to Labor Day.

Shuberts are bringing Elmer Rice's "A Modern Virgin" into the Garrick Aug. 17, and the Playhouse has moved forward its opening of "Salt Water," produced by S. M. Biddell, to Aug. 29. "Green Pastures" comes into the Illinois around Labor Day. Because of the season's consistent heat, the Shubert office is chary of booking in any musicals before Sept. 15.

Tracy Drake is hopeful of lining up some of the Guild shows for his Blackstone. Hasn't anything yet to follow "Stepping Sisters." In association with Laura Wilck, Drake is arranging to tour the "Sisters" company through the middlewest, with such towns as Milwaukee, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Des Moines, Omaha and St. Louis in view. Jim Wingfield is handling the booking details.

### Estimates for Last Week

**"High Hat,"** Adelphi (7th week) (C-1,100; $3). Around $6,000, better than a grand over the previous week. Ralph Kettering figures on prolonging its stay to Sept. 12, by which time he expects he'll have "Five Star Final" set.

**"Stepping Sisters,"** Blackstone (20th week) (D-1,984; $2.50). Went better than $5,500; conventions, parties and excursion hookups helping.

### "Breadwinner" at Booth

Messmore Kendall has the Booth, New York, for his production of Somerset Maugham's "The Breadwinner." Play goes in Sept. 21.

A. E. Matthews and Marie Lohr, English actors, will have the lead roles.

### 2 for Dance Stagers

Addison Carey and Charles Davis will stage the dancing numbers for Aarons & Freedley's "Singing th' Blues."

They are also engaged by Shuberts to do the numbers for one of their new shows.

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**Spanish Producers**
Who can produce legitimate Spanish plays and operettas. Also want Spanish actors and actresses. **Write** for appointment stating full particulars. **Manhattan Playhouses, Inc.,** 1560 Broadway, New York City.

# Recent Tryouts Set

Two shows, recently tried out, are reported set by the Shuberts, with one for early production. Latter "Money To Burn," by Elizabeth Miele, tried at Sharon, N. Y.

Other reported is "Fortnight," by Rose Franken, which Beckhardt and MacFarlane tried at Greenwich, Conn. Blanche Yurka mentioned as lead in mind.

## Shapiro with N. Y. Ag'cy

Henry Shapiro of Chicago, formerly of the Shapiro & Halperin agency there, is now with the Tishman & O'Neal agency office in New York.

Shapiro will be the RKO floor man for the firm, with Sam Tishman in charge of the agency.

### ONE FOR THE CORT

"Ladies of Creation," Gladys Unger play, opens at the Cort Aug. 31. Raymond Moore, a new hand, is producing, with schedule calling for an out-of-town opening at Dennis, Cape Cod, Aug. 17.

Chrystal Herne stars in "Ladies," with the cast including Spring Byington, Paula Trueman, Barry O'Neill, John Marston and Isabel Jewel.

### "Crazy Quilt" in Sept.

Billy Rose will reopen "Crazy Quilt" in Pittsburgh the second or third week in September.

With the same trio of stars, Fannie Brice, Phil Baker and Ted Healy, the show will play around the middle-western section on week stands, waiting for a spot to drop into Chicago for a run.

### "Paris" Taken Off

"Imported from Paris" planned as a pre-season entrant on Broadway was taken off by Abe Halle after its second try-out week at Brighton Beach.

Show was rewritten during the Atlantic City date by Maurice Marks and Fred Thompson.

### Readying for Legit

Evansville, Ind., Aug. 10.

County Council passed favorably on proposition to make changes in the Coliseum here to enable the stage to be used for legitimate stage shows. Will have a 50-foot proscenium opening. Marce Bowen is manager.

County auditor's office operates the theatre for the county.

### "Wall Between" As Starter

Sol Green, brother of Morris Green, producer, is turning producer with "Wall Between," by Lawrence Wallis.

A. Paglia, also new to legit, will co-produce.

## Shows in Rehearsal

**"Cloudy with Showers"** (McNutt), Forrest.
**"Three Times the Hour"** (Pemberton), Avon.
**"Constant Sinner"** (Constant Prod.), Royale.
**"Crooner"** (Morrisey), Craig.
**"Broadcaster"** (White), Cort.
**"Mlle. Modiste"** (Anderson), Chanin.
**"Glory Bound"** (Oakes), Vanderbilt.
**"After Tomorrow"** (Golden), Golden.
**"Singing Rabbi"** (Thomashefsky), Selwyn.

# 'TREE' $17,500 IN S. F., NUGENT COMEDY $5,800

San Francisco, Aug. 10.

Billie Burke in her first two weeks of "Vinegar Tree" at the Curran, did so much better than the run in Los Angeles that Ed Belasco came north to see the action at the b. o. winder. Last week was only $2,500 under the first week's big $20,000. It's capacity with deadheads glad to squirm into the boxes. Miss Burke will remain while biz is what it is.

Pa and Elliott Nugent's new comedy, "A Fast One," drew none too hot at the Columbia while "Irene" folded Saturday (8) at the Alcazar to make room for "'Oh, Boy," up from Los, and opening Sunday (9).

### Estimates for Last Week

**"A Fast One,"** Columbia (1st week) (C-1,700; $2.50). Tryout opening to much paper; low at $5,800.

**Vinegar Tree,"** Current (2d week) (C1,700; $2.50). Way out in front; big at $17,500; bookings may be fixed to keep show here more than scheduled four weeks.

**"Irene,"** Alcazar (5th and final week) (M-1,269; $1.50). Off from last week, but fair at $4,500 and out; "Oh, Boy" now current.

## Engagements

Aleta Freel, Elvira Trabert, Pierre Mario, Strange, Katherine Warren, Ben Lackland, Charles C. Wilson, "Three Times the Hour" (Pemberton).

Odette Myrtil, Eddie Foy, Jr., "Passionate Pilgrim" (Gordon).

Russell Hardie, Donald Kirke, Arthur Vinton, Walter Petrie, Madeline Delmar, Ruth Langdon, John Morissey, "Constant Sinner" (Mae West).

Kathryn Givney, Eileen Wilson, "Peter Flies High" (Bergman).

Charlotte Walker, "After Tomorrow" (Golden).

Katherine Wilson, Douglas Dumbrille, Elza Lazareff, Lee Kolmar, Douglas Gilmore, "Tempest in a Teapot" (Moses).

Rachel Hartzell, William Walcott, Adrian Rosley, Victor Killian, Clarence Bellair, "Cloudy With Showers."

Weldon Hayburn, Richard Thorne, "Nikki."

## "Glory Bound" on Way

"Glory Bound," a revue, is being planned by Percy Oakes for the Vanderbilt, arriving about the middle of September. Ned Norworth will star with Beth Challis featured.

Music and lyrics for the show were written by Will Heagney and Tom Connell. Walter Brooks will stage.

### READYING RADIO PLAY

"The Broadcaster," musical comedy which Major J. Andrew White announced for last season's production, is being readied, with rehearsals scheduled to start Sept. 1. Play is a satire on the radio business. White is former president of the Columbia Broadcasting Corp.

Book for the play was written by Roland Trevor and music by Lou Doly. E. E. Lilley will stage the dances and John Lonergan the book.

### BUYS ENGLISH PLAY

Paul Moss has bought American production rights for "The Circle of Chalk", done in London last season.

Moss, now in China on vacation, will start production preparations when he returns in November.

### "Judge's Sec" Again

Another try is being made with "The Judge's Secretary" by Walter Newman. Lew Talbot, from burlesque, is producing, with rehersals listed for tomorrow (Wednesday).

"Sec" folded last season after a short tryout.

# Legit Grosses Glided Upward Last Wk. on B'way Despite Blister Heat

## Barrymore's $19,000 Snappy Stuff in L. A.; Carrillo Only $6,000

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

Local rialto took it big this week when the returns came in from "School for Scandal." The Ethel Barrymore piece got an even $19,000 on the week at the Biltmore—the best gross the town has seen since people quit waiting for the Vitaphone craze to die down.

Eyebrow raising was caused by the blasts the local papers gave Miss Barrymore's performance in Denver, where she played the week previously. Local papers spread it all over the front page, going into detail over her indisposition on the stage and blowing up in her lines. Miss Barrymore later explained her condition as due to a sprained leg. Wise mob felt that the one-week engagement here at $3 top would be a bloomer. The Barrymore fans fooled them, even though the actress was still indisposed when opening here.

Henry Duffy, back to non-musicals after eight weeks of musical revivals that just about broke even, got away to a weak start Monday with Leo Carillo and Dorothy Burgess in "The Broken Wing." Seven days took about $6,000.

"Ladies All" at the Hollywood Playhouse went in the red with a take of $2,900. That's about operating money. It's the first local effort of Edward Hogarty, San Francisco and Oakland producer who planned invading Hollywood legit, but with the closing of "Ladies All" on Saturday was uncertain of his future plans here.

"Nine o'Clock Revue," the Eddie Lambert-Al Herman-Julian Eltinge-Eddie Borden-Frankie Heath co-op revue at the Musix Box, did $6,500. There's profit in that figure. Show has been going light on advertising, but co-oppers plan a splurge to build up business.

Belasco and Curran's "Greeks Had a Word for It" turned in a neat second week at $10,000. While not particularly strong for the peasants, this one's getting a good play from the better element, which can keep a show going for no more than four weeks.

### Estimates for Last Week

**"Broken Wing,"** El Capitan (1st week) (CD-1,571-$1.50). Popularity of the Carillo-Burgess team in this old-timer failed to make any impression at the b.o. with $6,000.

**"Greeks Had a Word for it,"** Belasco (2d week) (C-1,103-$2.50). Not particularly strong at $10,000, but profitable.

**"Ladies All,"** Hollywood Playhouse (4th, final week) (C-1,152-$1.50). Four-week clambake ended with $2,900, leaving the producer about $5,000 in the red.

**"Nine o'Clock Revue,"** Music Box (4th week) (R-965-$2). Profitable co-op at $6,500, and encouraging to a flock of other layoffs who figure they can do it, too.

**"School for Scandal,"** Biltmore (one week only) (C-1,656-$3). At $3 top the $19,000 tap was not a record, but surprised the town plenty.

## Old $100 Scale Stays For Road Stagehands

Following a conference between William F. Canavan and Fred J. Dempsey for the I. A., and David Finestone, representing Shuberts; F. Richard Anderson, for Erlanger's, and Dr. Henry Moskowitz, head of the New York League of Theatres, Inc., an extension of the road contract for I. A. men was extended for one year. The present contract does not expire until Sept. 6.

No changes in the new contract, with scale for road men to remain at $100.

## "Best Wines" Coming

Shuberts are rushing a musical comedy by Ralph Spence and Timothy Whalen titled "Best Wines" for the Majestic in September. Score is by Harry Tierney, who did "Kid Boots." Lyrics are by Raymond B. Fagan.

Edward Royce will stage.

### MUNY'S $3 A YEAR BOARD

Denver Aug. 10.

Three dollar-a-year men, L. S. Parsons, H. W. Graham and Rex Yeager, have taken charge of the Muny Auditorium.

It had been planned to name a paid manager but for economy's sake an employee of the building will be placed in charge with the board to decide matters of policy.

Broadway took an upward turn last week, unmistakably so, in the face of a blistening heat. July is always the deadest month of the year for show business, while August usually sees a betterment.

Not all of the even dozen shows benefitted by the rise, but the leaders had plenty of strength. "Band Wagon" improved at least $3,000. "Follies," the actual leader, could not be much better, drawing virtual capacity. "Barretts of Wimpole Street" climbed more than $2,000. "Grand Hotel," the dramatic leader, more than held its own. "Shoot the Works," the co-operative musical, slipped. "Green Pastures" announced the final three weeks.

Three musicals due late in the month or early September opened out-of-town—"Free for All," Boston; "Scandals" and "Vanities," Atlantic City. Until that time when several well regarded comedy dramas are also due, Broadway will coast along with its limited summer fare.

### Estimates for Last Week

*(Symbols: R—revue; M- musical comedy; D—drama; C—comedy; F—farce; O—operetta. Capacities and top prices also indicated.)*

**"Barretts of Wimpole St.,** Empire (28th week) (CD-1,099-$3.85). Picked up last week approximating $14,000.

**"Follies,"** Ziegfeld (7th week) (R-1,622-$5.50). Rates with best of series; cooling system aids business in face of heat; nearly $47,000; tops the list.

**"Grand Hotel,"** National (41st week) (D-1,164; $4.40). Maintained scale in face of torrid summer; dramatic leader holds to excellent figure; $18,500 last week.

**"Green Pastures,"** Mansfield (77th week) (CD-1,050-$3). Run leader announced to end Aug. 29; dipped under $10,000, but should tilt in best weeks.

**"Once in a Lifetime,"** Plymouth (47th week) (C-1,042-$3). With new season backward, run comedy on week to week basis until road is ready; about $6,000.

**"Private Lives,"** Times Square (27th week) (C-1,057-$3). Last month of comedy originally slated for three months; lately between $5,000 and $6,000.

**"Shoot the Works,"** Cohan (4th week) (R-1,360-$3). Showed something one rainy night last week then heat shoved attendance down again; co-operative show got between $6,000 and $7,000.

**"The Band Wagon,"** New Amsterdam (11th week) (R-1,423-$5.50). Picked up last week despite weather, indicating influx of visitors; paced at $39,000.

**"Third Little Show,"** Music Box (11th week) (R-1,000-$5.50). Up somewhat until Saturday with the approximate take $16,000; management states engagement will extend to mid-November.

**"Unexpected Husband,"** 48th Street (11th week) (C-969-$3). One of three or four shows on co-operative basis; surprise it survives in heat and that goes for others; $3,000.

### Other Attractions

**"Ruddigore,"** Erlanger's; G. & S. revival only new attraction this week.

**"Precedent,"** Bijou; little show in small hrouse; co-operative.

### NEW PRODUCING TEAM

Jack Charash and Bernard Joselow have formed a new producing company to be known as Charlow, Inc.

Partnership owns a comedy by Ruth Fine and Beatrice Aronson called "Dear Public."

**"A child's troubles are of interest to his mother;**
**"A young man's troubles are of interest to some young lady;**
**"An old man's troubles are of interest to no one."**

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# Russians Wild Over Theatre—All Native Plays Tinged with Sovietism

By EUGENE LYONS

Moscow, July 31.

The on-season for American tourists to the Soviet Union unfortunately coincides with the off-season for Moscow theatres. Some thousands of Americans thus lose the chance of tasting one of the most palatable of international dramatic offerings.

Whatever may be said against the Soviet theatre—and a good many mouthfuls have been said, it is at least fresh and stimulating. If its repertoire is dull, owing to the heavy hand of the censors, its methods of production and scenic effects are original.

Only two of the more important theatres in the Soviet capital are open all summer: the Kamerny theatre, headed by Alexander Tairov, and the Stanislavsky Musical Studio.

The Kamerny troupe recently returned from a long tour abroad, which brought them right into the area of revolutions in South America. Even actors from revolutionary Russia didn't feel themselves quite at home in the volcanic regions (politically speaking) of the South Americans and beat a hasty retreat.

The Stanislavsky studio has its tour ahead of it rather than behind. It is said that influential New Yorkers are negotiating to take the studio to the U. S. A. for a series of performances in New York and a jaunt through the provinces. If the negotiations succeed New York is in for a real treat. Its artistic make-up is not unlike the musical studio of Nemerovitch-Danchenko, seen and heard in America some years ago. But its repertoire is exclusively Russian and the productions, too, are more genuinely Russian, less imitative, than Nemerovitch-Danchenko's.

### Clamor for Plays

The other Moscow theatres are not just vacationing. The present-day Russia is too hungry for theatre to permit any troupe to idle. Literally millions throughout this vast country who never before saw a play or opera—or dared to dream of seeing one—now clamor for it. The Russian revolution has created an immense new audience for everything the theatre has to offer. The most backward peasant regions have been touched by the collectivization movement—a form of co-operative farming—and want not only a film house of their own, but an occasional visiting stage group.

As a result, all the Moscow the-

(Continued on page 62)

## BENNY SCORES BIG; OBJECTS TO BILLING

London, Aug. 10.

Jack Benny, billed as "the world's most famous master of ceremonies" proved a revelation at the opening show today, scoring immediate popularity. He did an m. c. for the bill.

Benny objected to the billing, with the program merely announcing his as being "direct from Carroll's 'Vanities.'"

Remainder of the bill is not up to the recent standard. It's lucky Benny is there.

## Festival Failure

London, Aug. 10.

Current Malvern Dramatic Festival is drawing a lot of American trade, but is considered a failure.

No outstanding plays are on the schedule.

## IN PARIS

Paris, Aug. 1.

Carl Laemmle, Sr., Selapoi Murphy, Jack Curtis, Gary Cooper, Leopold Godowsky, Dagmar Godowsky, Joseph Hoffman, Francoise Rosay (Mrs. Feyder), Glenway Westcott, Antony Princeps, Margaret Bannerman, Tom Webster, Michel Covarubias, Bob and Mrs. Stevenson

## Budapest Soubret in Hit

Leipzig, July 31.

Priemere of Paul Abraham's operetta, "The Flower of Hawaii," at the Neues Theatre here turned out a big success.

Performance took four and one-half hours. Enthusiastic audience requested the repetition three and four times of the most popular airs.

Budapest soubret, Rosy Barsony, was greatly liked.

## SOUTH AMERICA BAD FOR AMERICAN ACTS

London, Aug. 1.

Motto handed out by acts coming back from there is "Stay out of South America."

Returning to London from Buenos Aires the acts bring plenty of squawks with them.

They claim managements over there have a habit of breaking contracts out of hand.

Bookings are generally arranged through Tolemei, a French agent. Acts are usually booked for either 60 or 90 days, playing the Casino, controlled by South American Tours. This concern plays them for 30 days and then sublets them to other circuits for the balance of the engagement.

Recently acts have found they cannot get the rest of their time and in some cases cannot collect. A colored troupe, recently stranded, is still there trying to raise the fare back.

Appeals to the Consuls meet with lukewarm reception, threats of legal action are ignored as the culprits reckon the acts will be too broke to bring suit. Result is the troupers return home swearing they'll never go to the place again.

The Jovers are among the latest acts to be gypped, having $3,000 due, being willing to sell the debt for almost anything. Uninsky, Russian violinist, was landed the same way.

American acts about to sign for South America are advised to be careful.

## Admitted Lift

Paris, Aug. 1.

Stephen Weber, who does piano imitations as a vaude act, and gave a number imitating a pre-war picture house pianist, was threatened with a lawsuit by Betove, popular Paris entertainer, for lifting this number.

Weber agreed to withdraw the number and Betove the lawsuit.

## Musical Congress

Zurich, Aug. 10.

Second Anglo-American Musical Congress opened at Lausanne this week. Four hundred delegates were present.

President Erskine read a message from President Hoover.

## Gest After Chaliapin?

Paris, Aug. 10.

Morris Gest, after a few days here, left for Biarritz to talk things over with Chaliapin.

After that he's going to make a trip to Central Europe.

### Revue for Shuberts

London, Aug. 10.

"Tis Folly to Be Wise," revue, is practically booked for New York by the Shuberts.

"Folly" is at the Picadilly, where it's been a big money-maker for a long time.

### Milton with Mistinguette

London, Aug. 10.

Mistinguette has selected Billy Milton as leading man for her new French musical.

Show opens in Le Touquet next month.

### Crean Back at Pall

London, Aug. 10.

Richard Crean returns to the post of conductor at the Palladium, Aug 29.

He replaces Horace Sheldon.

## "NINA ROSA" MOVING

### Helen Gilliland Replacing Ethelind Terry—Wallace Revival

London, Aug. 10.

"Nina Rosa" moves to the Gaiety next Monday (17), with Helen Gilliland replacing Ethelind Terry in the lead. "Rosa" has been at the Lyceum for several weeks.

Edgar Wallace's "The Ringer" will be revived at the Lyceum at the same time. Another Wallace play, "The Case of the Frightened Lady" is scheduled for the Wyndham the following day (18).

## French Would Arbitrate On Music Situation

The Hague, Aug. 10.

French government has been talking to local officials about the music copyright controversy and has suggested arbitration. Move is a result of the Dutch parliament passing a bill squeezing the French Sacem office out and favoring the Dutch Buma bureau.

Sacem, as a result, has threatened to withhold from Holland all music under its jurisdiction, which would mean that Holland would not be able to get the music from Europe's most important composers.

# Bootleg German Variety Agents Caused by Govt. Agency, Parenna, With Experiment Not Yet Conclusive

Berlin, Aug. 1.

Germany is now in the most difficult and critical economic situation it has been in for the last hundred years; its economic foundation, such as its banks, large industrial concerns, even the Reich itself, has received a tremendous shock—in such times it is nearly impossible to look at things clearly and impartially and to analyze their justification or their advantages. Every branch of trade, the entire industry, art and science, suffers acutely in such a crisis, and only those branches of the industry and the trade that supply the most primitive human needs, such as food and clothing, are able to show satisfactory results. Without exaggeration it can be said that today the German people are living from hand to mouth.

This also applies to the show trade. Also in this respect the broad public is limited to absolute necessities. The number of well paying pleasure seekers has decreased frightfully. Unemployment has not alone decreased the buying power of the broad public, but also made deep inroads in the show trade.

Always an over-supply of artists, as compared to other professions, and consequently the unemployment in the show trade has been greater than in other trades. In Russia, for example, there are at the present moment only 35 German artists and two German circuses. German artists are not allowed to enter Poland, and only recently, after long negotiations, has Italy been reopened to the German artist.

From the smallest side show up to the biggest theatrical undertaking the disastrous economic crisis of this summer has been felt keenly. There are province theatres which are not even able to cover half of their expenses and wage-payments of approximately $350. Three large cabarets in Dresden were forced to come to an arrangement whereby the personnel, orchestra and artists were exchanged, so that they could carry on the business for at least 10 days of the month. This is all the more significant, as generally no slump or boom can be noticed in winter or summer in the vaudeville and cabaret business. The program of a vaudeville or cabaret must be equally good in summer and winter, and here, especially in Berlin, it has always been the policy to bring an even better program in summer than in winter, due to tourists, both from abroad and the provinces.

### The Parenna

These few examples will prove what tremendous difficulties the Parenna, the official government employment agency for vaudeville, circus and cabaret, has had to cope with since established, i. e., Jan. 1, 1931. On that date the German Reich laws prohibited all private employment agencies, meaning theatrical agencies and agents were put out of business.

The present associates of the Parenna are the Internationale Artisten Loge, the I. A. L., and the Internationale Variete-Theatre-Direktoren Verband (Association of International Vaudeville Theatre Managers). Up to April 1, 1932, the

(Continued on page 57)

## Sunday Bill in Oct.

London, Aug. 1.

As expected, the hot air about the Sunday Performance (Regulation) Bill, folded up quietly this week. The Parliamentary Committee then sitting on the Bill adjourned the proceedings until Oct. 21.

This means to say the various people interested in it get nearly three months grace in which to work out campaigns.

## Tivoli Vaude, Capetown, Closes After 30 Years

Capetown, Aug. 10.

Tivoli theatre (vaude) closed Tuesday (4). It had been running for 30 years.

Theatre belonged to the Capetown African Theatres (Schlessinger's).

## Paris Theatre Changes

Paris, Aug. 1.

Paris theatres will change hands next season in comparatively heavy numbers. Besides the Edward VII and the Scala turning pictures, and the Ambassadeurs currently pictures and possibly remaining so partly, other theatres changing are the Porte St.-Martin, being remodelled so that revues can be staged there, and the Pigalle, which will be managed by Georges Fouilloux.

Other likely changes include the Daunou, Folies Wagram, Potiniere, Falconetti's Avenue, Moulin de la Chanson, and the Carricature.

Catriens, manager of the Trianon Lyrique, will double as partner with George Bravard of the Gaite-Lyrique. Latter is a possible bet for the management of the Opera Comique.

# *European Runaround*

## By Frank Scully

Abroad, Aug. 1.

Alan Parsons, "Mail" show-slammer, now visiting New York, is writing letters home. Sad isolation of Shakespeare's statue doesn't discourage him half as much as teaching local geography to taxi drivers at his own expense.

Likes soft-shelled crabs in the G. C. where you can find, he complains, anything but a train.

Says American hustle has slowed down to a walk.

### Ladies First

Funny to Europe how long it took America to realize that Jeanette MacDonald was a star over and above and before those male troupers who up to now have been receiving better billing.

"Love Parade" had hardly touched these shores before peasants began remembering her name and forgetting the male star's.

By the time "Monte Carlo" arrived she had the billing cinched, though the studios were still putting her in No. 2.

Today she's where those male leads thought they were a year ago.

### Cash and Credit

Indie backers in swivel chairs are going prima donna, too. One whose knowledge of production was limited to how many aisles there are in a grind house happened to back a hit in London.

As it was a one-man job and the director was the one man, distribs naturally played him up.

Backer threatened suit if he didn't get type font equal in size to the director's.

Money, he said, wasn't everything, though he kept all of it.

### Nils Asther's Headache

Vivian Duncan's four months old, twilight-delivered daughter gave Paris newshounds plenty of copy when three countries started squabbling over the kid's nationality.

Born herself in Germany of an American mother and a Swedish father, the poor little skijumper stared wide-eyed about her and wondered if even in infancy anybody could be as dumb as the paperweights called "Government officials" are all their adult years.

After much cabling they finally permitted her to accompany her mother to America so the Duncans could start a show on time.

Kid goes in on a non-quota immigrant's visa, which only goes to show how low a consul general will go to justify his job of nicking chumps out of war-time visa money in days of peace.

### Raising Kane

Bob Kane came back from his holidays just in time to stop Joinville from going completely Metro on that re-take gag.

Three efforts to get "Cote D'Azur" on the floor resulted in three blocked kicks, with Harry Lachman finally deciding to walk rather than shoot the script.

"I'd get kicked out after, so I may as well walk," he argued.

On Kane's return the whole thing was gone into and he sensibly put a match to all the scripts.

Lachman was told to try his hand instead on "The Grand Duchess and the Waiter," with Savoir, who authored it, sitting in.

### Charming Change

Par's first own-made quota pic in London, "These Charming People," seems to have clicked okay. Anyway, produced with v. o. names like Cyril Maude, Godfrey Tearle and Nora Swinburne, it was liked better than Mike Arlen's own play version of his original novel.

With Walter Morosco now relieving Kane of the Elstree end, Par looks for a pickup in quality on both foreign lots.

### No Knives

Curt Goetz, ace of all German triangulist playwrights, and Louis Verneuil, king of all French bedroom farceurs, are doing a show together.

If they get through it without one knife being thrown the generals can scrap those new mile-wide fortifications and die in bed.

United States of Europe after that would be a pipe.

### Girl's Ghost Socking

William Pollack, who authored "The Vulture," is ghosting Jack Buchanan's reminiscences of Hollywood, the big softie. Dudley Leslie's doing the much more lusty job of putting horseshoes in Fay Compton's gloves for her version of L. A.'s ad department.

### Superlative Still Left

Every day the world gets more cautious. Jack Hulbert is working on a new show to follow "It's Folly to Be Wise," and he's scared stiff to step far from the first clicking title.

Solved it by calling the show "It's Folly to Be Wiser."

### Tough on Beginners

Low state of the book biz today makes it more difficult for a beginner to get a novel published than at any time since the war days. Market so tight that the tyro can't get a look in anywhere.

Practice of Liveright and Appleton, first line publishing houses, typical. These two, formerly taking all comers, won't read first novels. A letter asking for the submission of a first novel fetches a nice reply but so worded as to indicate that the publishers are not interested.

Only recourse remaining to the tyro is to get an agent to handle the work, but here he bucks up against the same thing. Agents, because of the now limited market which demands a name and high quality, won't waste the time with a beginner. Except the chiseling agents who demand sales fee in advance, but this is almost always unproductive of results, too.

### 10c. Mag Panic

Biggest event thus far in the mag panic is the "Physical Culture" drop in price from 25c. to 10c., in effect with the October issue. In line with the revolutionary realignment of mag rates and newsstand prices.

Unlike most of the other mags, "Physical Culture" will not cut its ad rate concurrent with the drop in its sales price. Publisher will add 150,000 copies, nearly doubling the print order, anticipating an increase in view of the lowered newsstand price.

"World's Work," on the other hand, goes from $700 to $500 a page, with its sales price the same.

Reports from out of the Hearst mag building on 57th street are to the effect that "Cosmopolitan," which went from 35c. to 25c. about a year ago, will also go to 10c. in the fall. If "Cosmopolitan" makes the reduction, more than likely "Redbook" and the other class monthlies will follow.

The mag panic has the pulps in a quandary. The pulp-papers rely on the sales price for a large part of their income and may not be able to go it at a time. But with the general movement to lower the newsstand prices of all mags to 10c. to meet the competition of the chain-store mags, the pulps will have to follow.

Mag panic similar to the book panic of a year ago, when the dollar book was hailed as the saviour of the book biz. Only dollar books remaining now are a few reprints.

### Real Names of Authors

Patricia Wentworth, author of "Danger Calling," is Mrs. G. F. Dillon; Maryse Rutledge, "The Silver Peril," is Mrs. Marice Rutledge Gibson Hale; Charles Pelton, "One Must Love," is Charles Pelton Jacobs; O. W., author of "God Have Mercy On Me," is Marjorie Smith; Rex Jardin, "The Devil's Mansion," is the Burkchardts, Robert and Eve; J. E. Buckross, "Silhouette of Mary Ann," is Mrs. Annie Edith Foster Jameson; E. Barrington, "The Irish Beauties," is Mrs. Lily Moresby Adams Beck.

But who is Roy Rockwood, author of "Bomba?"

### Another Wire Column

Cinematters daily fan column conducted by (Miss) Llewellyn Miller on the Los Angeles "Record," goes syndicate for the 12 papers of the Scripps-Canfield chain, of which the "Record" is a member.

### An A. P. Checkup

The Associated Press is sending a news executive on a visit to member newspapers to learn likes and dislikes of managing and telegraph editors. The executive, however, is reported more concerned with what is being sent over the wires of opposition services and the volume of AP copy used in comparison with that from other sources.

### From "Post" to "Liberty"

The unusual happening of a series or serial starting in the Satevepost and continuing in "Liberty" occurs with Eddie Cantor's "Five-Year Plan" which Simon & Schuster will bring out Sept. 1 as "Yoo Hoo! Prosperity," a $1 book.

Satevepost bought the first article and ordered the next two of the series but didn't like the latter, whereupon George T. Bye sold these to "Liberty" under a different name.

### Kandel's Third Novel

Aben Kandel's third novel, "Rabbi Burns," just finished, is due in September, with Covici-Friede publishing. Kandel's first two were "Vaudeville" and "Black Sun."

Lately Kandel has been writing and adapting plays. He has two for the coming season, one with Tom Van Dycke and the other with James Elliott. He also adapted "Wunder Bar," Al Jolson's musical, for Shuberts.

### H. L. Shalett Dies

Harold L. Shalett, 26, dramatic critic and feature editor of the Chattanooga (Tenn.) News," died of pneumonia July 23 in a Phoenix (Ariz.) hospital.

He had been in ill-health for two years.

### Fawcett's 3d for Fan Mag

Fawcett Publications has added "Screen Book" to its list of magazines. Fawcett took the mag from Radio-Science Publications Aug. 15.

Addition gives Fawcett three picture mags retailing at 10, 15 and 25 cents. Others are "Hollywood Magazine" and "Screen Play."

### Walsh Takes Stagg

Christy Walsh Syndicate has signed Amos Alonzo Stagg, for 39 years the U. of Chi football mentor, as his new football authority to succeed Knute Rockne.

The late Rockne had succeeded Percy Haughton (Harvard) as the gridiron sharp.

### Buys Twain Biography

Bell Syndicate Service has purchased, through Viola Cooper, the newspaper rights to "My Father, Mark Twain," to be published shortly by Harper and Brothers. It is by Mrs. Ossip Gabrilowitsch (Clara Clemens Gabrilowitsch) daughter of Mark Twain.

Newspaper release will follow shortly after publication of the book.

### Chatter

Anthony Abbot actually went before a notary to swear that he's not writing any books except those bearing his name.

Upton Sinclair decided to give up publishing his own works, and is letting others take the chance.

Ohare Cohen back to Bummin'ham.

Bernie Sobel still in need of material for that history of burlesque he is writing.

The Frank Harris biography of "George Bernard Shaw" comes out late in September, with a foreword by the subject. Frank gave the Irishman with the beard his first job, hence his knowledge of the noisy fellow.

Digney Bolton so sunburned on that week-end trip to Bermuda he had to dictate a contracted piece because the arms wouldn't work the typewriter.

Feminine scribblers lead the men as writers of best sellers by a ratio of eight to two.

After authoring a series of pieces containing instruction on how to write detective fiction, Edwin Baird, editor of "Real Detective Tales," announces he will no longer use fiction in his mag.

"Hatter's Castle" long enough for a whole summer of steady reading.

Street & Smith's new mag called "Shadow." Detective stories. Lon Murray editing.

Only one in Paris who can still get out books and mags in English to a profit is Edward Titus. Well, breaking even, anyhow.

If all those things reported happening to Fannie Hurst on her European trip are true, she will be all Hurst and no Fannie when returning.

V. S. Linvorn novelizing one of his short stories which began originally as a short short.

Those classics in the cheap bindings sell wholesale for a fraction of the asking retail price.

Boris Pilnyak's blast at Hollywood caused no excitement. That's expected by now of every foreign scribbler. Roland Pertwee only exception.

Still another book publishing house, Penguin Press, with Nathan Schachner and G. Edward Pendray interested. So many publishers in New York now, they get in your hair.

What's become of Richard Halliburton?

Another short novel contest by "Scribner's Mag," with $5,000 again the prize.

"New Yorker" tightening up. Much harder to land a piece there now.

The "Gillette" ad in the second issue of "Ballyhoo" understood to be paid for, despite the mag's assertion that it would take no paid advertising.

Charles Yale Harrison, in Connecticut working on a biography of Clarence Darrow, breaks the monotony every two weeks with a fling at the Harlem night clubs.

Jack DeVine pining for a sight of Broadway.

Another forthcoming book on Mexico, and Josiah Titzell is leaving Brewer, Warren & Putnam to do it.

Rina Sitwell Bradley won't go up in a plane under any consideration. Can't even write about an airplane in flight without becoming fearful.

John Barry Ryan, who has his own book publishing house under the name of Barry Vail, will have his first book of poems published by Scribner. Barry Vail will go down as the author.

Charley Norman, the "Village Poet," no longer is. Moved to Brooklyn to shake the classification.

Percy Waxman, the "Pictorial Review" chief, riding the ocean waves.

## Best Sellers

(Reported for Week Ending Aug. 8, by American News Co.)

| | |
|---|---|
| Shadow On the Rock, by Willa Cather | $2.50 |
| White Birds Flying, by Bessie Streeter Aldrich | 2.00 |
| Hatter's Castle, by A. J. Cronin | 2.50 |
| Good Earth, by Pearl S. Buck | 2.50 |
| All Along Shore, by Joseph C. Lincoln | 2.50 |
| Simple Peter Cradd, by Phillips Oppenheim | 2.00 |

**Non-Fiction**

| | |
|---|---|
| Washington Merry Go-Round | $3.00 |
| American Black Chambers, by H. D. Yardley | 3.50 |
| Mirrors of 1932 | 2.50 |
| Culbertson's Summary, by Ely Culbertson | 1.00 |
| Boners | 1.00 |

# Bootleg German Agents

(Continued from page 56)

Parenna is subsidized by the state, i. e., the Reich's Department for employment agencies and unemployment insurance (Reichsantalt fur Arbeitsvermitting und Arbeitslovenverischerung). The Reichsantalt is a department created by the German Ministry of Labor dealing with the unemployment and dole questions. Up to now, the Parenna has obtained from the Reichsanstalt about $300,000, and up to April 1, 1932, a further $200,000 will be needed. According to the law this subsidy is to be paid back successively by the Parenna.

### 15 Men on Board

The board of directors of the Parenna comprises five men of the Internationalen Variete-Theatre-Direkoren-Verband, five of the I. A. L. and five of the Reichsanstalt. The Theatredirektorenverband appointed Director Fritz Fechner as the secretary and the I. A. L. appointed Director Alfred Fuchs.

The files of the Parenna hold over 10,000 acts and orchestras. In a few seconds an agent of the Parenna knows everything he must know to execute an order. He makes an offer to the vaudeville director wanting an act. After the contract has been signed by both parties, a third pink copy of the contract is put in the files on which is written the date, name of the theatre and the conditions. Automatically this third pink copy goes to the cash department to settle the commission due. After the commission has been obtained from both parties, the pink copy is returned to the files. The Parenna has another file, the offer files. Here it can immediatel ybe seen, when, from which Parenna agent, and for what theatre an artist has been offered.

Daily every agent in the Berlin Parenna, and in its subsidiaries throughout Germany, obtains list showing which artists were signed up and which terminated their contracts on that particular day. The Parenna has subsidiaries in Hamburg, Duesseldorf, Munich, Leipzig, Cologne and Cassel.

Agents of the Parenna do not work on a set salary basis. Some receive a fixed salary, and others a percentage of their turnover in addition to their fixed salary.

### Bootleg Agents

To a certain extent the Parenna is right when it states that since the private employment agencies have been done away with several directors refuse to pay commissions, and the result is that many illicit agents are at work. If they are caught they are heavily fined by the authorities. Inasmuch as many experienced agents, formerly private agents, such as Spadoni, Wilschke, Grix-Gregori and Worms, now work for the Parenna, the latter is in a position to maintain connections with foreign countries, which, however, are unsatisfactory as yet. This to a certain extent is due to the depressed conditions in the variety business the world over, and also in part to the novelty of the Parenna activities.

It will take some time before the connections are again taken up with private agents and the representatives of the individual countries.

The Parenna has concluded an agreement with the Zentroposredrabis, the State employment agency of artisans and artists of the Soviet Union, according to which all non-Russian artists to be contracted for Russia will be signed up through the Parenna only.

### Russia's Tie-Up

Inasmuch as Russia is having difficulties with the valuta, the German as well as foreign artists are none too anxious to accept engagements for Russia. According to Russian law, any money earned in Russia cannot leave the country. Which naturally is no inducement for foreign artists to go to Russia.

The Parenna commission for contracts concluded within Germany is 4%, i. e., 2% from the employer and 2% from the employee, and for foreign contracts, i. e., from Germany to other countries or vice versa, 5%. In addition, since the Parenna has been established, it is possible for foreign artists to be signed up through their foreign agents, but within Germany they must work through the Parenna only.

The attitude towards the Parenna, as far as the vaudeville, cabaret and circus branches are concerned, is not uniformly favorable. It is natural that the private agents are opposed to the Parenna, as through the latter they have lost their means of living and must look for other fields. Several of these former private agents are now employed by the Parenna and it would be an easy matter for the remaining ones to be admitted to the Parenna. Many private agents were hard hit by the new law, but nevertheless, the evils which sprung from the private agencies were so great that it was imperative for the State to intervene. The reason for antagonism among the artists against the Parenna can be found in the fact that there is such great unemployment in this branch, which even the private agents would not have been able to alleviate.

### Against Parenna

A much more important factor is the objections and the antagonism against the Parenna on the part of the vaudeville directors. Objections have been raised which do not prove that the Parenna serves the trade as well as the Parenna or the I. A. L. would have the public believe. Jules Marx, the owner and director of Europe's largest vaudeville concern, the Scala concern, and the president of the International Guild of vaudeville theatre managers, regrets, for example, that the free agencies were forced to discontinue their work.

There are still many private agencies in Germany but they run the risk of coming in conflict with the laws.

# Inside Stuff—Pictures

(Continued from page 52)

prints have run through the projectors a sufficient number of times the collected oil and dirt is apt to give the frame on a full screen fuzzy edges or a marked obstruction as picked up in the projector gate.

This lapping over onto the border, thereby cutting down the size of the picture, is a universal practice in the theatres.

Masquers in L. A. are doing a burn over a director who handled one of their shorts, stealing the story and dialog and almost duplicating the picture later as a monkey comedy.

Masquers picture he did gratis. He was paid for the monk opera.

Names of Walter Hasenclever and Ernst Teller have been eliminated from Berlin posters on Metro's "Big Houses." Authors felt that the final print on the German version did not coincide with their adaptation, hence their protest and demand of the credit elimination.

Metro is making a big gesture towards strafing the Warners over that MGM film price war as under cover info indicates Loew's negotiation with several outside firms for theatres in the Warner territories around Pennsylvania and New Jersey. So far no deals set, but confabs have been held on several sites with the rub as in other theatre deals taken up by Loew's in the past being the Metro terms.

Doesn't look like any of the deals may break because of this.

Musical director, who has been kept on at one of the studios during the entire anti-music era, was called in several weeks ago and asked to settle his $500 a week contract, which still had 14 months to go. He accepted 50%—$14,000—to have the document shredded.

Two weeks later the studio woke up to find it had a big musical by one of the ace composers on its list and sent a hurry call for the baton flinger to return. He goes back again Sept. 1 at his old salary of $500 per week.

Word around Hollywood is that Chaplin will not come back. Several friends say they've heard so from the comic. Chief plaint against this country is his fear of being framed by gals.

At present there are only three people at the Chaplin studio on Sunset Boulevard, Alf Reeve, his personal rep.; a bookkeeper and the janitor. Everyone else, including technical and cameramen who have been with Chaplin for as long as 17 years, are out.

Believing that voices should be heard and not seen, Universal executives have refused to let Graham McNamee do a Rudy Vallee in the newsreel.

Requests that Graham be photographed in a clip of his own with the issue of each Universal reel are negatived, the belief expressed that familiarity breeds contempt even in picture theatres.

Studio exec, returned from the east, ran into a writer on the boulebard and gave him the glad greeting. "Just the man I wanted to see," he said. "I've got a story no one but you could adapt. You've simply got to do it for me, old man. I'll give you two thousand a week."

The writer, smiling gratefully, said: "With pleasure, sir. You know I've been working for you three years for $500."

The proceeds, $2,000, of the opening night performance of "The Star Witness" at the Winter Garden, New York, were donated to the families of the children recently killed by gunmen, $1,000 going to John Vengall, father of the dead boy, and the rest divided amongst the families of the wounded children.

While Papa and Mrs. Lindberg were posing for cameramen just before their latest takeoff a Universal cameraman, Earl Moffat, slipped around to the backyard of the Maine estate and poked his camera through a hedge. As the result the U newsreel showed the first sitting of the Lindbergh eaglet in the issue Wednesday (5).

"Publix Opinion" came out in but four pages last week. Its contents were in the form of a "Personal Letter" from Sam Katz to the Publix house managers, with the letter running the entire four pages. "Publix Opinion" is the weekly house organ of Publix Theatres, formerly appearing in 16 pages weekly.

New trade paper being published with a printing firm for Wid Gunning is a weekly. Called "Wid's." It consists wholly of comments and picture criticsms by Gunning. Sells for 25c. per copy; $10 a year.

Wid Gunning published the first daily picture trade paper, called "Wid's." It's now the "Film Daily."

After letting the contract for the erection of a theatre in Hagerstown, Md., Mrs. Grace Fisher found it necessary to ask for bids on a new set of plans. Provision for heating and ventilation had been overlooked on the original sketches.

### "SKIPPY"
**with Franklin Adams, Francis Smith, Francis Derby, Mildred Rich**
**Serial**
**COMMERCIAL**
**WMAG, Chicago**

Percy Crosby's cartoon character, Skippy, reached the radio phase of its exploitation Aug. 4 when it started as an every evening feature over WMAQ. At first only local, it is intended as a Columbia network feature. Chicago broadcast hour is six p.m., making it seven in the east and four on the Coast. That is good timing for the kids themselves. And the advertiser, "Wheaties," wants their attention rather or more than the adults.

Interesting sidelights in connection with the bringing of "Skippy" to the air include the fact that it is forbidden in the contract to photograph the kid actors impersonating Skippy, Sooky, Sissy and Carroll. The public already has its conception of these fictional youngsters from the cartoon strip and more recently Paramount's film production.

And thanks are largely due to the Paramount production by "Wheaties" for giving this feature its best chance. Equipped in advance with a vivid mental picture of what the characters look like, the public is more apt to accept and grow fond of the program. By happy chance the 10-year-old thespian, Franklin W. Adams, playing Skippy, and the eight-year-old Socky of Francis Smith very closely resemble vocally their film prototypes, Jackie Cooper and Robert Coogan.

Bob Andrews, a Chicago newspaperman and literateur of considerable experience, is authoring the scripts and, taking the third broadcast as typical, he's doing a sensible and helpful continuity that will have its full measure of importance in making the feature click.

And very markedly "Skippy" on the air stacks up as a program for which judgment would presage a bright future. It looks to be right for the American family. Given impetus by the established popularity of the strip and film, and seemingly safe in the matter of its child actors, author and director, the astute Dave Owens, it's not hard to think of "Skippy" as one of the first radio clicks of the new season.

A Chicago juvenile acting club called the Jack and Jill Players supplied the actors. Otherwise it would have been a problem indeed to know where to look.

Program is introduced with a piano-song bit talking about Skippy. This leads, through the announcer, into the introduction of the characters and thence the story. Kid stuff with the philosophical Skippy discussing things mostly with Sooky. In Crosby's cartoon strip Sooky is dead, but since Paramount in its version chose to bring him back to life "Wheaties" has exercised the same privilege. He is the perfect foil for Skippy and too useful to be allowed to remain permanently inactive.

In striving to make American kids conscious of and eager for their product because Skippy is supposed to eat it, "Wheaties" is possibly, like other advertisers on the air, helping mothers to control their children. But what the mothers of America would more truly appreciate is some radio program whose function is to glorify spinach.

*Land.*

### "THE OLD CYNIC"
**Talk and Skit,**
**Sustaining**
**WPCH, New York**

Apparent intent here is to pan the women along general lines with the girls writing in to tell the O. C. what they think of him. During the talk he exits with an excuse of a walk in the park. Then a skit is presented, a man and a woman, on a park bench, exchanging romantic felicitations

Cynic returns for more comment and invites the public to send in skits to be worked into the program.

The cyncal raps against the fair sex are what may keep the period on the air if the women continue to listen, but it seems a wasted effort even for the femmes. *Mark.*

### RADIO ENGINEERS
**COMMERCIAL**
**WPCH, New York**

A commercial of songs and orchestra. Also a try for a selling reason away from the regulation announcements. A family is listening to the period when the boy damages the radio set and a call must go out for a radio engineer. The firm supplies the demand in a jiffy.

Irving Seymour's band does the instrumental work. No rave but okay. Rendition style somewhat like Will Osborne. *Mark.*

### WPCH MINSTRELS
**Sustaining**
**WPCH, New York**

An old-fashioned formula with the Dixie Trio the standout on its harmony for topical numbers. Bob Smith and Fred Hartnett as piano twins also enlivened proceedings.

Usual exchange of end men gags, satisfying in a way but no smash laughs. As a program filler the minstrels are pleasing. *Mark.*

### JOSEPH HENRY JACKSON
**Book Reviews**
**Sustaining**
**KFI, L. A. (NBC)**

Literature and major sports alone receive the benefit of free radio exploitation in an era of crafty commercialism. While more people are interested in pictures and other forms of amusement, literature through the ages has retained an aloof atmosphere despite recent invasions by ghosted celebrities, jailbird confessors and wives who killed their husbands for a cause. But why?

Joseph Henry Jackson, heard from KFI locally through an NBC chain broadcast originating in San Francisco, comments favorably and unfavorably upon items from the publishers' new lists. In one session he talked of a trio—a freak book describing the life of a stunt flyer, a romantic novel and an essay concerning the world's money problems. No average individual could be interested in all three books and few people would purchase the romantic novel after hearing Jackson ramble tenderly through its plot. Entire period had the dryness of a schoolroom lecture.

If programs such as this are to be broadcast at an important evening hour they should be prepared for general appeal, never forgetting the radio's audience. Nor forgetting the possibility that publishers will pay for squibs preceding and following the actual criticisms.

*Bang.*

### THE SOUTHERNAIRES
**Songs**
**Sustaining**
**WGY, Schenectady**

Negro quartet over NBC Sunday mornings. Backbone of broadcasts is spirituals, to which are added folk-lore songs, levee numbers, comedy bits, and popular selections. Request numbers solicited.

Individual voices of the quartet are good, while the group singing is excellent. However, a little too much falsetto in the harmony numbers. Lowell Peters, tenor, heard most frequently in solo passages.

In the comedy numbers their technique is a bit more vaudeville, although selections are not of the kind usually heard in variety.

In the levee numbers some fast banjo picking to the accompaniment of handclapping, shuffle of feet, laughter, etc.

For entertainment, with an underlying note of reverence, in keeping with the day, the Southernaires present just about the best program heard over WEAF on the Sabbath morning. Rates an evening broadcast.

### CURTIS BENTON
**Legion Post Fight Announcer**
**KNX, Hollywood**

Curtis Benton is the Coast's veteran sports announcer, and the best. For the past five years he has handled the radio at the Hollywood Legion Stadium every Friday night, and has made more fights than Tom Gallery, the matchmaker. They can smell out the stadium but if you listen to Benton they're all great battles. His building up of a pug waltz as a fight over the air doesn't interfere with his description of a good battle. Gallery figured once that the broadcast was too much on the overhead. Benton was out two weeks but public demand brought him back again. He is credited with attracting femme fans to the legion by his colorful descriptions and between-round comment on the fans.

Benton has had offers from both NBC and Columbia to go east. A free lance scenario writer, he prefers to stay in Hollywood.

KNX tried him out on the final big football game last year. His reception caused the station to sign him for all the pigskin battles this fall. *Call.*

### HELEN NUGENT
**Songs**
**Sustaining**
**WOKO, Albany**

Miss Nugent has been on sustaining programs for Columbia, working with the Piano Pals, male duo, as guest star on a Sunday evening period, and with the Rhythm Kings, hot orchestra, on afternoon broadcasts.

Given quite a plug by the announcer, although her vocal interludes were not outstanding on either occasion. Has a clear, though not a powerful, soprano voice.

In the selection of her numbers and in style of delivery, Miss Nugent seems to lean toward torch ballads and not as successful with it as are numerous femme crooners heard over the radio.

### BIRD and VASH
**Sustaining**
**WABC, New York**

A somewhat draggy sketch less funny than it's meant to be. This is a series on a few nights weekly over CBS.

Along the tangent of NBC'S "Clara, Lulu and Em." Both feature small-town talk with femme characters only. Bird, of this pair, has inherited some money and they determine to go to Europe. Their preparations for the trip are supposed to contain the laughs.

Too dry to contain any element of humor outside the rural districts, and even doubtful there.

### JANE FROMAN
**Crooner**
**Sustaining**
**WENR, Chicago**

Given to the world by the ace Chicago NBC station as a find and with Paul Whiteman's name attached for the publicity glamor thereof, Miss Froman's first broadcast (6) starts a Thursday-Friday weekly series which will be expanded later to include every evening.

Anyone hailed in advance as a world beater starts with a disadvantage. It's better to have merit discovered than insisted upon. Every year in all the allied branches of show business the avocation of star picking goes blithely forward. While no statistics are available, any average memory can bring back names, vaguely recalled, but in their time trumpeted as great shakes and sure winners.

And so Miss Froman bursting upon an incredulous trade finds the going tough with those who, because of the advance flubdub, expected a merger of Belle Baker, Helen Kane and Blossom Seeley. But that may not be important. Certainly the great bulk of radio listeners were uninnoculated by the publicity whoopla and the extravagant claims of super-sensationalism made on Miss Froman's behalf.

That Miss Froman is vastly to be preferred to the radio average in sopranos is freely conceded. That she tosses off the crooning type of ballad nicely is equally obvious. But that she will ignite any fireworks is an enthusiasm that will not be universally confirmed.

NBC is rather complacent in its belief that it can take any chosen nonentity and after a process of up-building have a radio star. Right now it is testing that self-asserted maxim in a number of notable instances, east and west. These experiments may well be watched with care in and out of NBC. Without belittlement to the terrific exploitation powers of radio, it still may be questioned in advance that any studio or network can regulate popularity like the flow of water out of a tap.

A studio orchestra surrounds Miss Froman and is labeled as her own. Miss Froman has radio experience through WLS, Cincinnati. NBC states that she enjoyed wide favor in that sector. *Land.*

### ROY ATWELL-MARION McAFEE
**Comedy, Songs, Orch.**
**COMMERCIAL**
**WABC, New York**

A breezy period with a little bit of everything. Atwell is the feature and could hold up a broadcast alone. However, he is helped by the diversification. Besides Atwell's humorisms there are songs by Miss McAfee and some orchestral bits.

Atwell is of those tongue-twisting lads. It's quite effective and amuses on the air. Here he was giving the boys in the band, whom he called his pupils, a history lesson regarding the Panama Canal.

Miss McAfee is a pleasant soprano. Nothing unusual on delivery, but the vocal moments are likeable.

### STEPHENSON SINGERS
**With "Little" Harry Hofford**
**COMMERCIAL**
**WLS, Chicago**

Billing here, as programed in the dailies and announced over the air, is a misnomer, with the entire entertaining load being carried by "Little" Harry Hofford. Besides the latter's limited warbling talents, the program is weighed down by frequently interpolated reading of dreary advertising copy. Out of the 15 minutes this commercial is on, at least eight minutes are taken up in retailing the virtues of Stephenson's shirts and underwear. As handled here, all around, the program's routining must be even hopelessly dull for the outlet's rustic following.

Old ballads, request numbers for the most part, so it is announced, are the mainstay of Hofford's offering. "Just a Bundle of Old Love Letters" is one of the favorites.

### TOM WARING and TROUBADORS
**Songs and Orchestra**
**Sustaining**
**WEAF, New York**

Tom Waring once sang with Waring's Pennsylvanians. He's a baritone and knows his ballads. By sticking to them he shouldn't have any trouble on results.

With Waring is a band which sounds small as to numbers. Placid interlude, but with no degree of punch or ability to really attract as it stands. *Mark.*

### MARY ZOLLER CO.
**Xylophone and Piano**
**WGY, Schenectady**

Announced as "The Radio Xylophonist," Miss Zoller and Co., pianist, have presented several 15-minute programs recently over WGY. Listeners were informed that act was starting a tour of theatres (upstate), but dates and towns not given.

Miss Zoller is an excellent musician. Gets as much out of the xylophone as most male players, and tickles the piano with no little skill, too. Most of her numbers are of the fast-tempoed type, including one of her own composition.

Act is capable of delivering on a key station.

### ELLA WICKERSHAM
**Talk**
**KFI, Los Angeles**

Ella Wickersham is as interesting as her material. When her breezy radio film chatter clicks nationally, as is almost a certainty, they'll be recounting how this ex-adagioist, now confined to a wheelchair, has the devotion of her brother, Billy, who was her dancing partner on the stage and who, because he accidentally let her fall, now devotes his life entirely to her.

But aside from that, Miss Wickersham has a chatty 15 minutes every Saturday afternoon over KFI, the local NBC spoke, which would be a wow with the midwestern and backwoods folks as well as the big town people, for it packs an air of authenticity and personal interest that's undeniable.

Miss Wickersham talks about the topical social doings of the Hollywood picture folk; how they disport themselves at Malibu, how they stage parties, how they throng to the beaches when the grunnion are running (this last crack is something you pick up only when you're almost a native), and in general chats so breezily, intimately and interestingly that it's a wonder this quarter hour is not commercialized. It's a natural for a beauty preparation or some similar femme commercial proposition.

Miss Wickersham knows the Hollywood boys and girls and is invited everywhere. She talks of 'em by their first name, etc., describing this or that unique social happening in Hollywood.

Could even be "canned" and sold on a disk basis, having the dual advantage of both atmospheric authenticity in a naturally colorful locale, and further fortified by expert vocal delivery, soft spoken yet impressive, and never bombastic or egoistic in the usual film chatterer's style. *Abel.*

### ESTHER LEAF
**Organ**
**Sustaining**
**WOKO, Albany**

Esther Leaf has been substituting for Sister Ann. The latter customarily broadcasts over Columbia from the organ studio of the Paramount theatre in New York. Offers solos and accompanies Columbia singers.

Like Ann, Esther plays the organ with skill and finesse. She does not, however, seem to get as varied effects from the Wurlitzer as does her sister. This is noticeable in her manipulation of the bass. Tone produced by Esther in the quieter pieces is smooth and soothing and she is a good accompanist as well as soloist. At conclusion of broadcasts she is announced as Ann's sister.

Incidentally, that Paramount studio organ is one of the best for tone, effects, etc., heard via radio.

### "SCHOOL DAYS"
**COMMERCIAL**
**KFOX, Long Beach, Cal.**

This is one of those radio things committed in the name of entertainment. Only thing in its favor is that while listening you are spared the horror of seeing the front row pupils going slowly punch drunk taking a pig bladder on the chin every time they make a mistake.

Players are the usual "Schoolday" cast including the Sissy, Hebe, Wop and tough guy. The gags were old when Gus Edwards and Herman Timberg used them. It's on every Friday and anyone who listens to it the second time loves punishment. *Call.*

### KOLYNOS KIDDIE KLUB
**Song and Patter**
**COMMERCIAL**
**WBBM, Chicago**

Entertainment content of this one has been cut down to the minimum. Apparent the dental cream makers gave that angle little consideration when going network. About 80% of the quarter hour is taken up with a repetitious recital of the details of a word-building contest, with a bicycle as the first prize.

As a straight advertising proposition the program is serving its paycheck signer well, if the huge mail it is drawing from the kid listeners, intent on copping that bicycle, is to be used as a measuring rod. Twenty $1 bills is also contained in the prize pot. Latter happens to be one of the rare instances cash has been offered locally in an ether contest to juve fans.

"Salty Sam and His Talking Parrot" is the billing given the act that trails along with the program and occasionally is permitted to be heard. "Salty Sam's" routine consists of snatches of old pop numbers, such as "Come Josephine in My Flying Machine," bits of parrot mimicry and the popping of nitwitty riddles.

### THREE VAGABONDS
**Songs and Talk**
**KFOX, Long Beach, Cal.**

On this Long Beach station with strictly a rural audience on a coverage which doesn't penetrate L. A., this trio is lost. With a good sense of air comedy in their chatter and harmonizing both sweet and hot, they should be on one of the major L. A. stations.

Of necessity the trio is going hill billy to please the Long Beach taste. *Call.*

## WGN Claims Property Rights in Air Wave; Sues Radio Commish

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Station WGN, the Chicago "Tribune" outlet, has appealed to the district courts in Washington against the Federal Radio Commission's issuing it a conditional operating license. Daily asks the court to instruct the commission to take the "conditional" label off the permit, the latter, it says, as it now stands being tantamount to placing the outlet in the temporary license class.

Commission has now pending before it an application by WCFL, the Chicago Federation of Labor outlet, for the Tribune's wave length. As is the customary procedure in such cases, the ether supervising quintet granted WGN a license whose continuance was conditional upon the outcome of the Labor Union's petition.

Interesting sidelight on the controversy between the labor body and the "Tribune" is the fact that the latter sets up in its defense a claim of property rights to the channel. This, in face of the provisions of the Radio Act of 1927, which stipulated the ether channels are government property and assignment of these channels was always to remain a discretionary power of the government.

## CAN'T FIGURE DEAL

**Kennaway as Partner of NBC on Band Bookings**

Chicago, Aug. 10.

"Complete reciprocity" is the basis upon which Kennaway and NBC will do business. And it's still one of the most peculiar arrangements on record in the band business.

Despite the supposed clarification it's still none too clear what NBC hopes to gain or why the deal, with neither side promising anything or actually bound to a contract, went through.

With NBC treating Kennaway as a partner where band bookings are concerned, it implies a splitting of commissions both ways between the Artists Bureau and Kennaway. Latter can deliver Drake, Stevens, Morrison and LaSalle hotels as NBC broadcasting points, but these hotels are already, and have been, on the air through NBC affiliated stations.

Meanwhile, it is stated that two Kennaway men, Gerald Barry and George Ackerman, now quartered in the NBC dance band department are strictly on the NBC payroll yet admittedly retaining their financial interest in Kennaway.

## KMPC Loses Billies

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Glenn Rice is out as manager of station KMPC, Beverly Hills. With him he takes his Beverly Hill Billies, the station's one bid for fame. W. G. Ebersole, official of the MacMillan Oil Co., owners of the station, succeeds him.

Meantime, the Hill Billies will make a personal appearance tour of California with dates in Arizona to follow. Tentative plan of Columbia Broadcasting is to take over the Hill Billies and Rice around Sept. 15, releasing them on the coast through the Don Lee chain, with the programs originating at KHJ here. Deal depends on the length of their personal appearance tour.

## ANNOUNCER CLAIMS ASSAULT

Cincinnati, Aug. 10.

Disliking his tie or something, Francis Goebel, non-pro, socked, jumped on and badly battered Cliff Adams, WKRC announcer, the latter alleges.

Adams sued in Common Pleas Court for $50,578.50 claiming the brawl ensued for no reason at all, and that he was laid up four weeks. Hotel Alms, home of WKRC, was the scene of the encounter.

### WAIU's New Crop

Columbus, Aug. 10.

Associated Radiocasting Corp. has been formed to operate WAIU separately from the American Insurance Union and issuing stock for the property. Co-op management of WAIU and WCAH will be continued as in the past. Proposed to improve equipment of both stations and acquire television.

Both stations are tied with the Columbia chain.

# NETWORKS NEAR ALL FILLED ON TIME

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Both radio networks are nearing the point of being 100% booked between the peak hours, 5 to 11 p.m. NBC right now has but three hours through the week still unsold. Columbia has only four hours unsold.

As a result of the congested network situation the individual stations are expecting a big year dealing with advertisers direct through the radio disc medium. Many advertisers unable to get time for nation-wide hook-ups will use spot time campaigns instead.

Figures for radio business recently made available show that Columbia's gross for the first six months of this year is 46% ahead of last year's income for the same period. NBC came through with a 33% jump. With CBS doing a business of around $1,000,000 a month for the past seven months and with the increased lineup of accounts for the fall and winter, it is predicted the chain will almost double for 1931 its previous year gross of $6,730,000. NBC's two networks have been setting up an average income of $2,000,000 a month since January, and on this basis its gross for 1931 should show an increase of at least $5,000,000 over the previous year's $20,088,000.

## NBC DISRUPTING NEW CHAIN ORGANIZATION

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Plans for organization of the North American Broadcasting Co., comprising hook-up of several stations in the northwest with KNX here, are being held up through NBC dickering with KYA, San Francisco, KJR in Seattle, and KEX and KGA in Portland. These stations were all figured to come in on the new N. A. chain.

NBC outlet in the northwest has been weak in coverage and excessive toll charges. If the four stations come in it will break up the line charges, both from the east and here, and make the NBC hookup an attractive proposition for Washington and Seattle stations.

## Commish Claim on NBC By Mills for Calloway

Irving Mills has entered a claim with NBC for the two weeks' commissions which NBC received recently from booking Cab Calloway's band at the Stanley, Pittsburgh, for $3,500, and the Brooklyn Paramount, at $2,000.

Mills claims that he has a one-third interest in Calloway and the exclusive booking privilege of that band. NBC, says Mills, booked Calloway with knowledge of the Mills contract. When Mills notified NBC's legal department of the situation, NBC's Artists Bureau informed the legal department, it is said, that it was unaware that Mills had a contract with the band and later told them, says Mills, that it booked the band with Mills consent.

This latest move of Mills washes up NBC with the two colored bands it was handling. Other was Duke Ellington, who left NBC, withdrawn by Mills, Aug. 10.

Ellington goes into the Oriental, Chicago, Aug. 14 and the following week plays the Michigan, Detroit, both Publix houses and Mills' booked.

### BROWN SHOE BACK

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Brown Shoe Company of St. Louis, last season's ether sponsor for Phil Spitalny, has signed a 26-week contract with NBC for a coast-to-coast hookup of 36 stations starting the middle of September.

Commercial is again figuring on a name band for its program.

### New Mag Period

Street & Smith will put their "Love Story" magazine on the air through CBS, beginning Oct. 1.

The firm's "Detective Story" went off the air a few weeks ago.

### Fairly Happy

San Francisco, Aug. 10.

KJBS, local 1,000-watter, cooperates with the police by sending out instruction to the cop cruiser cars between record programs. Heralds police orders with a siren.

"All police cars stand by," was a recent alarm. "Man has been waylaid at Kearny and Pacific by highwaymen. They slugged him with sandbags, bashing his skull and breaking one of his legs. Robbed him of $34 and his gold watch and tore his clothes to shreds. The next number will be 'Happy Days Are Here Again,' a phonograph record."

# "Do As We Say, Not As We Do," Irks Chi NBC

Chicago, Aug. 10.

NBC's inconsistent policy on the subject of commercial contests has aroused a flock of comment among local advertising agencies. After ordering its Chicago unit to lay off accepting any form of direct contest ballyhoo copy, the network's New York office chucks the new policy in the wastepaper basket and in several recently acquired commercials lets the latter go the limit.

Notable instance in this connection is the Dutch Masters program, which went on from the New York studios last week for the initial broadcast. Cigar makers devoted about five minutes of its 15-minutes to telling about a contest which offered World Series tickets as well as railroad tickets to the game.

About six weeks ago, when Montgomery Ward asked for the privilege of detailing its contest awards from this end, the mail order house was informed that angle of the daily broadcast was out per orders from New York. Chain's local unit has since then turned down at least four accounts which insisted that the contest ballyhoo privileges be included in the contract.

## CBS SIGNS 3

### Magazine, Farm Food and Silks Airing

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Three new commercials have just been signed up by Columbia for the fall. Biggest coin contract of the trio is Street and Smith's Love Story Magazine half-hour dramatic show which starts a once weekly run, Thursday evening, Oct. 1. Program will get an outlet over 45 stations, with the 52-week ticket in the way of both time and talent valued at around $300,000.

Pratt Foods, barnyard fodder, starts on a 22-station release out of New York Sept. 17, going on every Thursday afternoon for 15 minutes of down-on-the-farm entertainment.

Vanity Fair Silk Mills is programed to follow two days later with a 15-minute variety show over the same number of stations. Both contracts are for 13 weeks, with options.

## Mary and Hayakawa on Trans-Pacific Broadcast

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Sessue Hayakawa and Mary Pickford took part today (Monday) in the first trans-Pacific broadcast from San Francisco to Japan promoted by NBC and the Japanese Broadcasting Co.

Program was sent out on short wave to be built up on the other side. Players were relayed from here to Frisco.

### Public Coast Auditions

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

Don Lee Broadcasting System has started try-out nights in a search for new radio talent. Plans now are for auditions every Tuesday night at KHJ from 9 to 10 p. m. with the public reaction as the judge.

Don Lee is tied up with the Columbia chain which will also look over the possibilities.

# KIDDING SPEECH BURNS UP A-K DISTRIBS IN A. C.

Atlantic City, Aug. 10.

Joe Cunningham, the Philadelphia humorist and after dinner speaker, burned up plenty the Atwater Kent radio distributors at their convention last week here at the Hotel Ambassador. Cunningham was the only after dinner speaker.

George Jessel was the special entertainer, engaged for 10 minutes and did 40. Georgie and Joe mopped. Both were booked in by the Universal Artists Bureau of WCAU, Philadelphia.

Cunningham was introduced to the diners as a distributor of one year's experience. He would tell them what he had picked up and observed about the business during that period.

Cunningham said he had busted into the racket through hearing about so much dough in it; that the boys got theirs the same as other racketeers and didn't have to use machine guns. Said he tried out the business with a toothcomb and a can of Flit, like you would use for anything that was lousy.

For 20 minutes Cunningham slammed it in, having been unusually well wised up. His burlesque sales talk kicked all of their complaints around the tables. It carried several smartly delivered punches and Cunningham did it so well he had the distribs laughing at their own errors.

In introducing Jessel Cunningham stated Georgie recently had been elected dean of the Friars by a vote of 4 to 1. Jessel, said Cunningham, had cast the four votes for himself.

## Sues In-Laws Over Alienation of Wife

Cincinnati, Aug. 10.

Bernard T. Prior, who says he is an announcer for several Cleveland stations, has filed suit in Common Pleas Court here against his wife's sister and brother-in-law, Wm. and Mrs. Kraft, of this city, for $35,000, alleging that they alienated his wife's affections.

Prior gives a local address as his home and claims he and his wife lived together happily for 14 years when, he charges, the Krafts taunted him about his poverty. Mrs. Prior and her sister are now employed in a local department store.

### Hank Richards Moves

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Hank Richards now with WAAF, of the stockyards district, as program director.

Formerly continuity writer at WLS.

# Chi Philharmonic Concerts May Blow Through Dissatisfaction of Musicians

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Dissatisfaction among the musicians with the way the outfit is being conducted by Adolph Dumont and the coffee and cake return they've got out of it so far threatens the continuance of the Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra's Sunday concerts, the town's first co-operative venture of its kind. Majority of the 70 men composing the orchestra are reported to be in favor of calling the project off with the Aug. 16 concert, unless the boxoffice makes a hefty pickup by that date and the sponsors, in name only, Loyola University, comes through with a different deal.

Summer concerts idea on the co-op plan was the idea of Adolphe Dumont, known to radio listeners as the conductor of the Household Finance Orchestra. After the Chicago Federation of Musicians gave the thing its sanction, Dumont started to look around for a spot to hold the concerts and picked Loyola University's stadium, holding 20,000. University agreed to "sponsor" the Sunday evening event on the following conditions:

(1) It would spend around $1,000, as preliminary expenses, for the building of a bandstand, press agent salaries, printing of tickets, newspaper advertising, etc.

(2) In return the university would take $250 out of the intake on each of the first four concerts and split everything over the first $1,000 equally with the orchestra. After the university got back its original outlay, at least, by the fourth concert, the entire gross thereafter would go to the symphony boys, minus 50%.

### Dumont's Idea

Dumont brought in with him to act as business manager, Robert L. Hollingshead, formerly with the Judson Concerts Corporation's local office. Pair approached National Broadcasting for a hookup, this having been Dumont's selling point in dealing with the university. Chain readily agreed to carry the concerts, but refused to come through with a donation to the orchestra fund—although at the time it was paying $750 per broadcast for the Ravinia Opera concerts.

When news of the coin turndown got to James Petrillo of the musicians' union he stepped into the picture and tried to use his influence in inducing the network to chip in something. NBC's ultimatum was take nothing or leave it, and Petrillo, figuring that the affair would be a flop without an ether ballyhoo, said it was okay with him, if the men in the orchestra were willing. And nothing is what the outfit has been taking, despite the fact that by the fourth concert (Aug. 2) 40 of the network's affiliated stations were broadcasting the show. Chain's usual fee for a sustaining feature is $25 per station.

### $46 Divvy

Project started off on the wrong foot, as its directors later admitted, by going in for a heavy distribution of Annie Oakleys, so that when the university deducted $250 from the first concert's gross there was just $46 to be divided up between Dumont, Hollingsworth and the 70 men in the orchestra. Second concert fared still worse from the boxoffice end, and the university waived its cut in that instance. Gross on the third performance shot up to $790, and the "sponsor" this time deducting its share, with everybody else concerned getting just about enough to pay for bus fare to and from the spot and a meal. A threatening rainstorm brought the intake on the next concert under the $700 mark, with Loyola again counting off $250.

Majority of the orchestra are now contending that the university has received at least ten times its investment in the way of publicity through the radio and newspapers as a result of the sponsorship and it should be now willing to turn over the entire gross of the succeeding concerts to the musicians and let them handle the venture from every angle in their own way.

Same mob asking for the change in management setup criticize the concert series' low scale. Instead of setting a flat admission fee of 50c, they say, the performances should have been scaled at $1 down to four bits, on the theory that the varied prices would from the caste angle have greater appeal for the social category this type of amusement must depend on.

### Ideal but N. G'd

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

KNX, broadcasting the trial of Dave Clark, former assistant district attorney for the Spencer-Crawford murders, is looking for a sponsor.

So far three undertakers have bid for the broadcast but were turned down.

# Child Actors Can't Appear After 7 P. M.

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Activities of kid performers broadcasting from local studios have come under the close scrutiny of the State Department of Labor. Inspectors from the latter's superintendent of factories division are making the rounds of the stations regularly to see that the child labor laws aren't getting the wink.

Illinois law forbids the employment of minors before 7 a. m. and after 7 p. m., and also bans them from any form of professional stage exhibition. On the other hand, juve ether work is okay with the state supervisors as long as the youngsters are not used outside the specified hours and outsiders do not get a glimpse of them in action, during rehearsals or the actual broadcast.

Law's restrictions came up recently when the CBS producing unit started to put on its etherized version of "Skippy" for a cereal distributor. Studio was instructed to clear the visitors' gallery when the kid cast of four took their places before the mike. To make sure there would be no comeback from the Gerry Society mob, the station execs were further advised to shield the prodigys from public gaze during rehearsal periods.

Incidently, when the contract for the radio version was signed by Percy Crosby, originator of the strip, he had inserted a clause to the effect that no pictures be ever taken of the kids in the ether cast, for exhibition or publicity purposes.

# Inside Stuff—Radio

### Who Can Tell?

A wide divergence will always exist no doubt between the mike and the stage. As the person behind the mike talks to that unseen audience you hear so much about, so does the speaker remain unseen to the same audience, or listeners in.

So who can tell who's behind the mike when it's the voice only that most often counts on the air?

As a "Variety" mugg observed:

"On the air a low comedian can do his stuff in evening clothes wearing a cane and high silk hat."

The Cuckoos are a collection of satirists or comics on one of the Saturday evening sustaining programs around New York. Over the air the group seems very funny, in their sense of the ridiculous, their delivery and all of their foolishness for 30 minutes. Some showpeople have said they thought the Cuckoos the best comedy period on radio. And still remaining on a sustaining program probably through the advertising misinformed idea of laughter with plugging.

An RKO agent thought he saw in the Cuckoos a vaude act of value by itself through their stuff and possibly of some draw power in a theatre. It was arranged that the Cuckoos should show for RKO in a theatre near New York, and if getting over, their vaude salary would be $1,500 a week.

They duly appeared, and to the biggest flop any vaudeville act has taken around New York in five years.

But still just as funny on the air.

Amusement industry is radio's poorest advertiser. During the past four years, from 1927 until 1930, but four theatrical companies spent money for ether advertising with the big networks.

In 1927 CBS and NBC shared one amusement company apiece. NBC had First National Pictures, which spent $12,191 for radio time that year. CBS had during that same year Producers' Distributing Company, later swallowed by Pathe, which appropriated $4,246 to radio. Neither CBS nor NBC had a theatrical advertiser in 1928.

In 1929 CBS got Par-Publix, which gave that network $123,518. For 1930 Par-Publix spent $539,076 with CBS. Par owns 50% of CBS. In 1929 NBC got RKO for $407,639. In 1930 RKO spent $495,427 with the same network. RKO is affiliated with NBC through RCA.

Coast songplugger, while playing a benefit show at San Quentin recently, ribbed the warden plenty about the radio set Jack Warner had given the women prisoners. Kept referring to the set before the femme

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# Inside Stuff—Radio

(Continued from Page 59)

cons, who didn't have the use of it, and had the warden burning plenty.

When they were alone the warden explained why the gift wasn't in the women's quarter. Had it there for a couple days and found they were continually tuning in on KJBS, San Francisco station that broadcasts the police car instructions. Couldn't keep them away from that station and the police stuff was pitching them to riot fever. Set is back in the women's dorm, but it's a strict rule that they musn't tune in on the cop stuff.

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Despite CBS's official entry in television, made three weeks ago, CBS has only one artist under a television contract. She is Natalie Towers, CBS's "Miss Television," who was placed under a two-year television contract to CBS, with options, about eight months ago.

Miss Towers is probably the only artist who appears regularly on the television broadcasts. Rest of talent is changed for each broadcast. Miss Towers is used on five and six sight-and-sound periods weekly.

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Chicago NBC unit is giving heavy play to the intellectual status of its personnel, in the way of publicity. Tells about the large percentage of college graduates among its executives, sales and mechanical force and announcers.

Network further points out that its bevy of peacherino hostesses all attended college with the exception of one, and she carried off a sheet of parchment from some finishing school. Even the page boys, it avows, who run before the execs opening doors and pilot the visiting fans around the studios, have all attended halls of learning some place and some time.

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While radio may be the coming monarch of the amusement world, Hollywood has still to make its obsequiary bow.

A continuity writer for pictures was found by a reporter on the continuity staff of a Los Angeles chain station, and contorted his face in horror when he saw the newshound.

"Please don't print anything!" he yelped. "It'll ruin my chance of ever getting a good job in pictures again if they know I'm in this dump."

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Rajput, Indian philosopher broadcasting nightly over KFI, Los Angeles, is M. H. Joachum, high caste Hindu and graduate of Oxford, who has been in this country for the past 10 years specializing in sales promotion.

Twist to the philosopher's broadcast is that when he is not on the air for the NBC outlet he is sales manager for KNX, Hollywood, a rival station.

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The write-your-congressman gag was tried out by radio last week, with KNX in Hollywood asking its listeners to write Judge Fleming for permission to have the station broadcast the trial of David Clark for the murders of Herbert Spencer and Charles Crawford.

No go.

# 'Round the Square

(Continued from page 51)

care of a cruiser or an aquatic runabout. It's no go. Experienced motor boatmen won't let a chauffeur near a boat, except as a passenger, unless they know their chauffeur.

This has nothing to do with navigation or knowing the water in which the boat will romp. It's just a matter of common sense. Chauffeurs figure a boat should operate like an automobile—step on the starter and you're off. If not, fix the motor. But they seldom think to open up the hatches and let the motor compartment air out mornings before stepping on the starter, or pumping the boat out, and a few other minor details which become major when neglected.

It's easier for a boatman to run a car.

### 24-Hour Coast Flight

Bill Perlberg, Coast agent, left the Newark airport at 10:30 on a Thursday morning and had his lunch in a Hollywood restaurant the next day, bringing with him a rave over the United Air Lines' service. Schedule of flying after 10:30 Newark brings one to Cleveland 1:30; Toledo, 2:30, and Chicago 3:30 that afternoon for refueling and changing of planes, pulling out of Chi at 4 p. m. You have dinner on the plane at 7 p. m. near Iowa City; Omaha at 9 p. m.; Cheyenne 2:30 a. m., when the passengers are awakened to have a hot breakfast at the airport, where the planes refuel again. You're in Salt Lake 6:30 a. m., Las Vegas 10:30 a. m., and at Burbank, Calif., airport, 10 minutes from Hollywood, at 12:45 on the dot. Passengers recline in barbershop-like chairs, which can be tilted back for sleep.

Boeing planes are used for the nite flight between Chi and Salt Lake, and these come in for the big rave. NAT (National Air Transport) is used elsewhere with Western Air Express switching off from Salt Lake to 'Frisco.

### Hunches and Charms

Good luck charms are getting a greater play today than ever. This goes especially for the colored people who figure the stage owes them a living and are trying to collect it.

Old time good luck pieces are considered the best, from the rabbit's foot to the four-leaf clover.

And where the games of chance are favored by professionals enabled to play, the hunches are always prominent.

Slang expressions among the colored professionals have not undergone any wide changes in the last year or so.

Generally slangy phrases are originated where the Negro stagers hang out, but of late expressions have come forth from the south.

In Norfolk with plenty of negroes, three new slangy phrases are "forte" (great), "tight" (good) and "down in the low gravy" (broke).

### Walter Reade Nicked For $90,000

Walter Reade, one of the shrewdest realty operators in New York, lost around $90,000 on the Hotel America property, which he recently turned back to the Salvation Army. The hotel is on West 47th street. It was part of a big parcel starting from the RKO Mayfair running through the Astor restaurant, the Hotel Manhattan and the America, assembled by Reade.

Reade had in view some day tearing the whole thing down and promoting a big picture theatre palace on the site. That faded with RKO taking a lease on the old Columbia theatre after Reade rebuilt it. The Manhattan hotel is still operated by Reade. He sunk the money into the Hotel America trying to fix it up in modern style.

The Salvation Army, which holds a second mortgage on the Hotel America, was given the deed by Reade. A Cuban woman is reported as holding the first mortgage.

# Splitting Fox Chain

(Continued from page 5)

**Theatres, including the Poli circuit in New England, the Schine string and Midwesco around Chicago and Milwaukee will be split up into distinctive compact bodies that will operate independently, but be affiliated.**

The minor bodies to be formed, so far as learned, will be collated into an affiliated system of independent minor circuits in General Motors fashion. Each will have its own general manager, Oldknow and Arthur supervising above in a general way. While by no means determined, this sign points to Oldknow and Arthur becoming direct execs in the Fox Film Corporation to head this new idea in theatre operation. As such, they may be spliced in as Fox film vice-presidents in charge of theatre operation.

Presently they are subsidiary to all film operations. The Fox plan of decentralization evidently came from the business heads of the film company as it smacks of downtown conception. Latter long known to have been impressed with the need of cutting the expensive overhead of big circuit operation, and in addition figured on building up the greater importance of theatre operation as a distinct system of filmdom. That way the play may have had its inception with Harley L. Clarke who is known to have been pondering over the new scheme for some time.

Clarke's first aim and which has stuck since he has taken charge of Fox Film has been to inject business angles of operation into that company and its subsids where such angles were feasible and needed. This splitting up of the theatre circuit looks to be among the results of that long study.

### All Units

In breaking up the Fox Theatres group in the east, Fox achieves the ultimate in localized operation with the same intention and result that might have been achieved through circuit amalgamation or co-operation in other companies.

So far as can be learned of the Fox plans, the group will be split up into units as they now stand. Thus, there may be a New England unit, a Long Island unit, New Jersey unit and a Midwesco unit. Each is to be operated entirely, independently, by a single head who will be known as general manager of that sector.

The Fox deluxers everywhere will be segregated into a special group of their own. These probably will be under the direct eye of Harry Arthur. It is likely that under this plan Arthur may move to the coast. There he will share authority under Oscar Oldknow. This may occur after the decentralization in the east has been effected.

In the lineup of execs who will operate the minor divisions to be formed, Fox is figured to retain its present personnel while removing home office overhead to a great extent. Samuel Rinzler, now in charge of the Brooklyn and Long Island divisions, may be shifted, as it is reported he may take an active part in the operation of his own houses owned in partnership with Frisch, with whom he formerly was connected.

Herschel Stuart, now in charge of Fox's (Poli), New England, looks to remain there as general manager with headquarters out of New Haven, while Harry Fitzgerald will stick in Milwaukee. The latter end is apt to be linked to the Fox West Coast chain, which so far as known is not included in the present plans.

### Arthur Gen. Mgr.

When and if Arthur moves to the coast it's likely he goes as general manager of Fox West Coast, a post that's new with him under the Fox management, but which he held during the early days of that far western circuit's beginning, and prior to Harold Franklin's coming in and later leaving.

It's a promotion for Arthur, who practically rebuilt the Fox Theatres in the east under Oldknow's supervision into a co-operative and compact group of houses. Fox's upper New York State theatres look to be out of the plan, as these may go to Mike Comerford under a sales deal now pending between the parties.

Altogether the decentralization plan, according to observers, marks another step for the Clarke management in the reorganization of the Fox properties, which had been bundled in haphazard when this group first took hold of the company and its subsids.

### 100 Splitup

With the Upper New York State houses out of the current operation, it means that 100 Fox theatres will be broken up into these minor circuits. With the deluxers out and numbering around 12 or so, that leaves around 88 theatres to be dovetailed into three minor circuits. It is an average of maybe 30 houses to a circuit and in concentrated territory. The Fox-Poli circuit itself comprises more than this number.

No date is set for the plan to become effective. Some men around the home office already have received notices denoting the departure is in the making. Among these is Frank Pendergast, who held the post of public relations counsellor with the theatre outfit.

In the deluxe division setup the Roxy on Broadway, will be independent. It is to be plugged over and up as the Fox company's beacon theatre. It heads the division's lineup of houses which will include in New York territory, besides the Roxy, the Audubon, uptown, and the Academy, downtown.

# NBC P. A. Out

Walter Stone, head of NBC's publicity department, resigned Saturday (8).

Johnny Johnstone, who preceded Stone as head of the publicity department until elevated to assistant to M. H. Aylesworth, is currently doubling at both jobs.

NBC has no one in mind yet as successor to Stone.

# HOAXED 2-WEEK NOTICE

### Phone Instruction Followed by RKO Chester to Can Band

Some unknown person called the manager of the RKO Chester, Bronx, last week, representing himself as in authority in the RKO music department, and ordered the manager to give his pit band a two week notice.

The notice was posted, but taken down at once when the Schwarzwald department learned of the hoax. It informed the manager. The orchestra is considered one of the best on the RKO circuit. There is no intention to make any changes there, according to the Schwarzwald office.

# Sousa's 39th Tour at 77

John Philip Sousa starts his 39th annual band tour Sept. 2 at the Steel Pier, Atlantic City.

Sousa will celebrate his 77th birthday Nov. 6 while on tour.

## $250,000 Campaign

Chicago, Aug. 10.

"Life Savers" is figuring on spending over $250,000 on spot broadcast time during the course of the next year. Candy manufacturers have signed for a series of 13 disc recorded programs, with the latter going in for atmospheric sound effects, picked up by a portable recording outfit, at nationally known pleasure and scenic spots. Idea is similar to that of the Plymouth motorcar series.

Program will be released through approximately 200 stations some time in October. Talent to be used in making the programs is being booked in New York.

## MEDICINE TENT

(Continued from Page 55)

boy had hiked north right after the ceremony. Girl has had a baby which is sick. Pop, the fake medico, tries to cure it, gets in a jam and sends for his supposed doctor son. From then on it gets messy, winding up ith the old man going to jail for illegal practice and the boy staying to do right by Becky.

James Burtis played the medicine show man and did well with a part that wasn't very meaty.

Play by A. J. Karnoff and Adam Holmes, who know their medicine shows, but not present-day drama.

## Love's Out of Fashion

Atlantic City, Aug. 3.

This new Shubert comedy, adapted by Gladys Unger from the German of Wilhelm Sterck, should appeal chiefly to the adolescently sex-conscious. Nothing in the English version reveals either wit or sophistication for the adult mind.

Vera Teasdale and Walter Woolf head a company of four. The work of Miss Teasdale doesn't help her leading man's performance. If the Shuberts intend Walter Woolf for a matinee idol, they should prescribe a diet for him. Several times in the course of the play, Woolf appears in a bathrobe without coat; and there is nothing about the figure to make ladies' hearts beat faster.

A millionaire auto manufacturer and sportsman takes an outing for a month each year abroad, engaging for the trip, a charming hostess, or at least as near a charming one that he can select from the many candidates who answer his newspaper ads. A friend suggests that he turn to his good looking secretary to change his cynical views of women. The hero misinterprets the lead and suggests his employee serve as his companion. She accepts. Her strict adherence to the business part of the arrangement and her moral standards make a fiasco of the outing, but result in her gaining a wealthy husband and the hero in winning a virtuous girl-bride.

*Weintraub.*


# LEADING ORCHESTRAS DIRECTORY

**BILL HOGAN**
and his
BILTMORE ORCHESTRA
BILTMORE HOTEL
Los Angeles

**HAROLD GRAYSON**
and His Orchestra
EMBASSY ROOF
HOLLYWOOD

**HOLLYWOOD COLLEGIANS**
"Rhythmic Illumination"
Open for Engagements Oct. 1
Personal Representative
MATT KELLY
AL GROSSMAN OFFICE

**PAUL WHITEMAN**
INDEFINITELY
Edgewater Beach Club
Chicago
Personal Rep.: JAS. F. GILLESPIE

**ABE LYMAN**
and HIS ORCHESTRA
FORREST CLUB
NEW ORLEANS, LA.
Brunswick Records

**TED LEWIS**
Exclusive Columbia Recording Artist
WM. MORRIS AGENCY
Personal Representative
H. HAROLD GUMM
1540 Broadway, New York

**GEORGIE STOLL**
and HIS ORCHESTRA
Carthay Circle Theatre
Los Angeles


## Lyman's Commercial

Abe Lyman's band is engaged for Phillips Magnesia, which starts broadcasting over CBS about Oct. 1.

Commercial has contracted the band for 13 weeks, three times weekly.


The Popular Troubadour
DICK ROBERTSON
knows the tunes to sing before his vast radio and phonograph record "publics." That's why he invariably selects these Robbins "Tunes of the Times" for his programs:
"When the Moon Comes Over the Mountain"
"I'm Thru with Love"
"At Your Command"
"Hikin' Down the Highway"
ROBBINS MUSIC CORPORATION
799 SEVENTH AVE. NEW YORK

# Disc Reviews

By Bob Landry

**Vic Lewis**

(Okeh 41502.) Novels, stories, poems, American Mercury articles and sentimental ballads have all been rather devoted of recent years to the great American hoosegow and the unfortunate patients therein. Convict authors have become quite numerous and occasionally gifted. So heart-rending was the lullaby of a felonious composer impersonated in a motion picture by Richard Barthelmess that he sang his way over the radio into public sympathy and a pardon. That, of course, is reason enough for any prisoner to try his hand at the other kind of bars.

Wallace Wysocki, No. 3223 of Marquette Prison, Michigan, will hardly be paroled in custody of Tin Pan alley on a basis of his weepish "There Must Be a Bright Tomorrow." While sincerely trusting that, it is inescapable that his tune is feeble and his lyrics non-lustrous.

Yet, there is a market for these bruised heart chants. "Say Good-Bye to the Folks Back Home" is perhaps a fit (and slightly more melodious) mate to the newest prisoner's song. Together they make a couplet of unadulterated saccharine.

**Blanche Calloway**

(Victor 22661.) Coon-shouting deluxe. A race record for white consumption. If you listen carefully the lyrics are highly suggestive. To the pure in heart and innocent of mind it may not be noticeable. That kind of double meaning. But the innocent of mind won't be buying this record anyhow. "Just a Crazy Song" and "Sugar Blues" they're called.

**Gus Arnheim**

Victor 22702.) Little melody meat adhering to the bones called "Why Shouldn't I" and "To Whisper Dear" as here rendered. Loyce Whiteman on one side and Donald Novis on the reverse add vocal choruses. In sum the total is not much.

**The Knickerbockers**

(Columbia 2483.) From the "Third Little Show" the Knickerbockers play "Sing a Little Jingle," an in-betweener, and "When Yuba Plays the Rumba on the Tuba Down in Cuba," a sizzling symphony for gourd and castanet. It's 85% on one side and 15% on the other. Always a doubtful arrangement since the pleasure is cancelled by the disappointment.

**Ben Selvin**

(Columbia 2473.) That which is known as a production number, and often most effective and clever as part of a total conception with scenery, actors and dialog included, is apt to sound pretty flat and meaningless when left, alone and puny, to fight its battles on musical merit that is lacking.

So seems to be the case with "High and Low" and "Dancing in the Dark" extracted from the smash revue, "Band Wagon." On wax they wouldn't make the ears of a nervous horse even flutter.

**Ted Wallace**

(Columbia 2471.) Invidious or not, the comparison for "Star Dust" in wax is Wayne King's version. And that lets Ted Wallace down and out, for his "Star Dust" is without verve or distinction. "Have You Forgotten" is somewhat better.

**Buddy Campbell**

(Okeh 41509.) There is a complete simplicity in orchestral technique that is not devoid of its followers. Buddy Campbell is the essence of unadorned arrangement and unvaried tempo. He here plays two musical nonentities, "It's the Girl" and "I'm All Dressed Up With a Broken Heart."

**Joe Venuti**

(Okeh 41506.) Four pieces render "Little Butter Cup" and "Pardon Me Pretty Baby" in quietly different manner. Out in the great hush where new records are few this one would be hailed with joy. Where the supply is more ample the reception will be proportionately more restrained.

**London Novelty Orch**

(Columbia 2476.) From the British capital that gives Columbia a good share of its imported recordings comes "Amina," a pleasant accompaniment for a fandango or what-will-you-substitute.

Reversing, the Royal Air Band (trained on the ground) tackle "Down South," one of the best interpretive pieces that ever found its way into a picture theatre's music library. Together the two selections and their dispensers make a nice disc.

### Art Kassel's Return

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Art Kassel has been handed a new ticket for the Bismarck. Contract runs from Sept. 23 to May 15.

Hotel's main dining room is in the meantime being redecorated, with the management figuring on giving it a new name for the reopening.

## July's Best Sellers

Six best sellers for the month of July, according to Variety's survey, were:

"When the Moon Comes Over the Mountain" (Robbins).

"Just One More Chance" (Famous).

"Through With Love" (Robbins).

"On the Beach With You" (Davis, Coots & Engel).

"I Wanna Sing About You" (Berlin).

"Come to Me" (DeSylva).

## 2c INCREASE OR MORE FOR MUSIC WHOLESALE

After returning to original price following trial of cut to 16½c. some publishers are planning to boost prices still higher.

They say they will increase wholesale figure on but one or two songs, those which are their hits. One publisher declared that he contemplates boosting his entire catalogue from 18c. the standard price, to 20c.

Witmarks will add two cents to the wholesale price of "Happy Returns of the Day," their hit song which now wholesales for 18c. it is reported. Famous intends doing the same on "Just One More Chance," now selling for 20c. wholesale with the jump to 22c. for less than 100 lots. Joe Morris, will add two cents to the price of "When Your Hair Has Turned To Silver," now selling for 18c.

## GILBERT SPLITTING LYRICS

**Making Songs Blend With Spirit of Mixed Musical**

Boris Thomashefsky, who will present the 50-50 English-Yiddish musical, "The Singing Rabbi," at the Selwyn, New York, in September, has Wolfe Gilbert to write the lyrics.

The music is by the great Jewish composer, Rumshinsky. Gilbert will write the lyrics 80-20, with the big piece English; Jewish lyrics getting the small end.

## Victor Turned Down On Royalty Cut Asked

Victor's request to publishers for a cut in the disc royalty of 2c. has been refused.

Once the largest selling disc marker, Victor is now being preceded on sales by two cheaper make records, Melotone a 25c. disc put out by Brunswick, and by the 10c. Madison disc supplied to Woolworth.

Reports that hits discs were running to between 50,000 to 60,000 on sales low enough in comparison to former times, is an exageration. Victor is only selling a reported 40,000 discs of the number one songs. It sold only 38,000 recordings of the hit "When Your Hair Has Turned To Silver," a number one song for almost four months.

### Sanders' Hotel

Coon-Sanders' band has been booked into the Hotel New Yorker, opening Oct. 1. Contract is for a minimum of five months.

Coon-Sanders, an MCA band, will receive an NBC wire from the hotel.

Because of the New Yorker engagement, Coon-Sanders' two weeks at the Hollywood Gardens, which was to start Thursday (7), was cancelled. Jack Miles went in instead.

### Cookies' Dance Band

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Another of the town's m.c's going into the band business is Ted Cook, B. & K. baton-waver and known formerly as "Cookie."

Kennaway is grouping musicians around him, and expects to locate in a dance spot for the winter.

### Hoffman at Via Lago

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Earl Hoffman has been booked by the Via Lago, northside dine and dance spot now being operated by former Sheriff James Davis, for an indefinite stay.

Hoffman succeeds the Al Handler combo Aug. 17.

## Lyman's $3,500 Radio Deal to Run 26 Weeks

Chicago, Aug. 10.

With his radio contract specifying New York as the point of broadcast origin, Abe Lyman is faced with the proposition of getting himself and his band a permanent dance spot in that metropolis. Air show for Phillips Milk of Magnesia Toothpaste over the Columbia chain starts Sept. 1, with three 15-minute programs a week. Commercial's ticket guarantees Lyman $3,500 a week for 26 weeks.

Although negotiations are being carried on with the Paramount Grill, Lyman would prefer to hook up with the restaurant in the Earl Carroll Theatre building. Competing with him for the latter stand is Paul Whiteman, who is anxious to get back to New York at the termination of the current Edgewater Beach engagement here. Just before Coon-Sanders signed with the Hotel New Yorker, Earl Carroll had approached the Chicago bandsmen with a view of having the combo doubling from the restaurant into his new edition of Vanities.

Anticipated difficulties of getting back to New York in time for rehearsals for the first commercial broadcast has resulted in Lyman's current efforts to get out of a two-week date at the Dells here, where he had been pencilled to open Aug. 17.

## PUBS SHY FROM DISC CONTRACT

Publishers have refused to sign the formal agreement with the radio disc companies put into effect July 1. Agreement not to sign was reached last week after a study of the contract. The radio disc companies were notified that the contract was not satisfactory to the publishers.

Formal contract called for the disc companies to pay the publisher 25c. per copyright song used. Publishers refused to go through with their original intentions because they declare there are many provisions in the contract which they feel may react to their disadvantage.

The radio disc companies were notified that in order not to cause them any trouble, pubs will carry out the agreement under certain conditions.

That they will establish a central licensing bureau, to be operated by John J. Paine, to which bureau the radio disc companies must apply for permission to use songs, and that radio disc companies give Paine a list of the songs intended for use, name of programs and a list of the radio stations, is proposed.

Paine would then grant licenses to all who desire them for 25c. per song per time used.

## CHET MARKS DIES FROM HOLDUP WOUNDS

Toledo, Aug. 10.

Chet Marks, Toledo nite club proprietor, died Sunday afternoon (9) of bullet wounds received early Friday when three bandits attempted to rob him.

Marks, with his wife, had returned from Luna Pier, dansante, run by Marks with Lou Greiner. Coon-Sanders band had played a special engagement and the take was about $1,200 for Marks. Bandits held him up as he entered his garage. Marks slugged one, but another fired three times, hitting Marks in the chest, leg, and the third bullet breaking his arm.

Although there are denials it has been rumored that Marks and Greiner had been approached by the "protection rackets." This belief is somewhat substantiated by the fact that there is no description of the bandits, although the fight took place in the brilliantly lighted garage.

Marks and Greiner also ran the Showboat and Chateau La France, both nite clubs.

# Ballroom Sues Phil Spitalny

## Rep Ruined by Abruptly Ended Dance, Sez Manager

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Proprietor of the Decatur, Ill., ballroom where Phil Spitalny walked his combo in the middle of a one-night dance engagement when the guarantee coin wasn't forthcoming has hit back with a $50,000 damage suit against the band leader personally.

Although the NBC Artists' Service handled the booking, it has not been made a party to the action. Dancehall owner, Frank Baton, charges in papers served on Spitalny that the band's exodus on that occasion has ruined his business.

Spot is known as the Coliseum Ballroom, located on the outskirts of the town, and had been formerly used as a roller-skating rink. Baton himself had done a roller-skating act in vaudeville, and after taking over the place this season decided to put on dances, featuring name bands two or three nights a week. Spitalny date was arranged by phone with the Artists' Service, with no part of the guarantee price forwarded to the booking office subsequently. Understanding had been that the band was to pick up its money when the box office closed.

When the inflow of dancers through the stile let up, Spitalny's business manager and Baton made a rapid count of the receipts, and found that there wasn't even enough to pay off the musicians. The b.m. quickly passed this information along to Spitalny. Latter brought the number the band was playing to an abrupt stop, and, turning to the dancers, he announced that the affair was off and that they were to get their money back at the box office.

**Painful Refund**

Baton argued, pleaded and threatened, but Spitalny told him he hadn't lived up to his end of the contract and that the band wasn't going to cheapen its reputation by yielding to such business practices. With that Spitalny and his men scrammed and the dancers started to file by the grill for the return of their four-bit pieces.

Spitalny's exclusive contract with NBC has until October to go. He's been on tour for the network for the past two months.

### Splitting Apples

Los Angeles, Aug. 10.

Three musicians accepted a $10 job to play for a dance at Orchard Camp, mountain resort at Sierra Madre.

At the end of the evening the proprietor handed the leader one bill, saying he meant th $10 for all three.

The other two filed wage claims.

## FREE ORCHESTRATIONS OUT IF NOT WITH BAND

A plan of registering orchestra leaders to determine which orchestras are entitled to free orchestrations has been adopted by the M. P. P. A.

Step was taken by the publishers to prevent those who have no connection with an orchestra from receiving free orchestrations. Hereafter only bands that hold a card from the M. P. P. A. will be entitled for free orchestrations, with the publishers having the right to refuse all others, under the plan.

M. P. P. A. is now preparing a questionnaire which will be mailed to all orchestras for the purpose of registration. The board of directors will determine which orchestras are acceptable for registration. A registration number will be given to each.

## MUSIC BY NEGROS

**In "Big Moments," New Colored Show This Week in Harlem**

In Irving Miller's new all-colored show, "Big Moments," having its first time currently at the Lafayette theatre (Harlem), the two acts are devoted to the music of two periods.

First, all the works of the best known Negro composers are being played. They include the hits of Williams and Walker's time, down to brand new numbers, written by Macco Pinlard, which have never been publicly played.

Miller is giving the music of the old masters and the new a novel introduction, and if the show holds up will be held intact for fall dates. Otherwise, it will be disbanded as quickly as it was put together for this week's date.

## Bouncing Checks Bounced Dancer's Hubby in Jail

Lowell, Mass., Aug. 10.

Married three weeks and honeymooning here, Evelyn Milton, New York cabaret dancer, saw her romance hit the rocks when her hubby was arrested. He is Howard Werksman, son of a wealthy Pittsburgh oil broker.

Werksman is wanted in Pennsylvania, Worcester and Cambridge on charges of passing rubber checks. Evelyn advised him to face the music and said she would not desert him.

### Rhythm Boys' Wire

Blue Rhythm Boys, subbing for Cab Calloway at the Cotton Club, get the NBC wire thrice weekly starting this week.

Boys will be on WEAF for 45 minutes each Tuesday and Thursday and WJZ for 30 minutes on Fridays.

### Arnheim's Film Chance

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Gus Arnheim with his Coconut Grove orchestra, long a feature of the Hotel Ambassador, is going into pictures.

Howard Hughes has picked the combination with Arnheim for the cafe sequence in "Scarface."

### Harms Buy Into Conrad

Harms has purchased a 25% interest in Con Conrad, Ltd., coast publishers owned by Con Conrad, songwriter.

Eastern company releases all the Conrad songs in New York.

## Gobs Whoopee Bent Put Hot Spot Clubs Under Lock and Key

Provincetown, Mass., Aug. 10.

Hot spot night clubs here have been ordered closed, all because 200 sailors—naval and reservists—made heap too much whoopee.

If you believe the Board of Selectmen, there were orgies that ain't to be allowed under the dictum of Massachusetts blue law Puritanism. Fun's O. K. if it's fun, but when it borders on the sinful, look out.

Operators of the night clubs are giving battle to the edict that they must keep the shutters up. Rose Chapman, the Texas Guinan of this resort, and Doris McLoughlin, donned war paint, but it didn't do any good. They couldn't budge the good town fathers from their close-up order. Rose is the proprietor of The Rendezvous.

Rose said there were so many sailors bent on having a good time that it was impossible to keep them out. Doris operates the Waterfront club and she echoed the sentiments of her compatriot.

The swanky Wharf Players' Club submitted to an official inspection, but received an O. K.

The Ship, another pleasure spot, continued to remain open in defiance of the selectmen's command.

## Union Sets $25 Scale For Weekend Cruises

On all summer week-end cruises union musicians will receive $25 per man and double for contractor or leader.

This price was set by the 802 Board of Governors following a letter from Nathan M. Abramson, vaude agent, who stated that the steamships were employing college boys who take the trip for little or no money. In order to have local members play, Abramson asked that a price be set.

# CHICAGO

## Variety's Chicago Office

WOODS THEATRE BUILDING—CENTRAL 0644-4401

### Englewood

RKO's southsider went m. c., with Franz Ruf doing the between-the-act honors. Comics' frequent and nicely timed appearances helped lift the event out of its usual lackadaisical monotony. Five acts in addition to the regular quintet were penciled, but only four of the former showed. Three Dixie Flyers, spotted to open, was the missing turn. Hot weather plus a palpable heavy wane of interest in the bargain affair accounted for the weak turnout.

Ruf besides having the looks and personality, sells his stuff with skill and ease. Nothing smart or subtle about his material, but withal well framed to tickle the laugh wants of the family trade.

Babe Carney, contortionist, did acceptably as the initial exhibit. Routine was overstretched. Could be cut to advantage. Young girl's intricate bits showed long and hard training. Promising talent here for some class B or C presentation unit. Only thing comical about Fritz and His Comedy Band was the sextette's hodge-podgey make-up. Played several German and Polish airs without much objection from the customers.

Swart and Berry, mixed comedy team, gave evidence of knowing the ropes. Pair clicked moderately. Looker in the act was fairly deft at feeding, but male member stacks up more effectively from laugh-getting angle when he dishes it out solo. Only trouble with his layout here was a too fast pace. He was usually a couple of gags ahead of the customers. Precocious Jerry Revin put his shrill pipes through a trio of songs. Mediocre kid talent, but just about enough of it to get a modicum of approval here.

Another mixed patter team, Collins and Patrick, started off the contingent on the regular bill. Collins' sap characterization revolved around the constant repetition of an exclamatory, "Oh, gee whizz," to denote coyness and shock. Crossfire occasionally scored a chuckle while song and tap bits garnered nothing more than a perfunctory applause. Gag line accompanying prattfall sounded much too mangey for the family clientele, and shrieks for the scrubbrush.

Applause honors of the show went to the Harris Twins and Loretta, a trio of good looking and graceful adagio acrobats. Girl was much heftier than the usual projectile in this type of act, but the boys handled her dexterously. Shoulder and head balancing formations that closed the act earned them a special plaudit handout.

Femme team of Daye and Himes who followed didn't let up on the pace previously set. Girls can handle a comedy song with nimble surefire effect, but the mainstay of the act is the dark haired damsel's fast and hokey clowning. Franz Ruf, next, kept the laughs popping with his simple and obvious patter, while Snell and Vernon closed the show to a sprightly runoff of ring acrobatics. "Lover Come Back" (Col) the screen feature.

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Peru, Ill., opens with week-end vaude Aug. 23, booked by Tommy Sacco.

---

Green Bay, Wis., returns to vaude this month, booked by the local William Morris office.

---

Wayne King follows Coon-Sanders at Lakeside Park, Denver, Aug. 13 for a week, and then plays at the Schroeder, Milwaukee, (22) for two weeks. He returns to the Aragon ballroom Sept. 5.

RKO STATE LAKE
CHICAGO
'COMMON LAW'
with CONSTANCE BENNETT

THEATRICAL CUTS THE STANDARD ENGRAVING CO. INC. 235-237 E. 45th St. NEW YORK N.Y.

## Hollywood Shorts

(Continued from Page 26)

the right sleeve torn in the armpit.

Also that fall coat I told Genevieve she could have when I left.

I'm working hard and my feet are full of corns or something. One of the girls waited on a director yesterday and he admired her so much he ast her to come out to the studio for a test. She's all excited but I could tell her plenty. It makes me laugh.

Men are certainly fresh.

Love,
*Elsie.*

---

Hollywood, Nov. 19.

Dear Ma:

When I think of that letter I wrote to you a couple of days ago it makes me realize how we can never know today what you can do tomorrow. I've met the most marvelous man, ma, and he has nothing to do with studios or anything.

His name is Gus and he is a tall dark type and I waited on him for lunch yesterday. He didn't make any passes nor nothing but he gave me a dollar tip and asked me what I was going to do with my evening. I told him I worked pretty late but he said he would pick me up afterwards and take me for a drive because I looked pretty tired. It sounds kind of funny when I write it down but honest he is just like a perfect gentleman.

Well, Gus called and took me for a ride and it sure felt good to get off my feet for awhile. He has a great big car with a little chaufer and you ride along like you was sitting in a train. Gus told me he is in the fruit juice business non alcoholick and he just sat back like a king never making no dirty cracks or trying to neck me.

After we had rode around a while he let me off at my rooming house and ast me when I could see him again. I told him tonight I was so excited.

Ma he's wonderful. That was the first time in my life I ever came back from an auto ride without combing my hair.

How's pa, the ole beer baritone? Wash the brats and kiss them for me.

Love,
*Elsie.*

---

Hotel Del Coranada,
Coronada Beach, Calif.
November 25.

Dear Ma:

Well, I quit Henry's and am down here spending a week to get back my health. But don't worry about me ma, because Gus is going to get me a good job as soon as I get back.

I have a nice little room here only this is a frame building instead of brick. Maybe that's why it doesn't cost much. It's only a few miles to Agua Caliente and I spend my evenings there going to picture shows.

I am pretty lonesome but it is for the good of my health. I think Gus is a marvel.

Love,
*Elsie.*

## Going Places

(Continued from page 45)

sprightly moments that work their way up through the tangled mazes of the very plotty plot.

### In Wrong Territory

More to be pitied than censured are those travelling salesmen. See "Traveling Husbands" and learn how hard is their lot. See how bravely they try to be gay, how desperately they seek to carry on, how zealously they work to maintain the tradition that they're such a naughty crew. Look at them in their hotel rooms surrounded with hard-faced dames, loudly ordering ginger ale, dancing with forced abandon to the tune of the room radio, telephoning their wives while dreary ladies sit dejectedly on their laps. It isn't the wives of traveling husbands that one feels sorry for after seeing this picture, it's the husbands themselves.

Of course, they're not such an attractive bunch themselves, but the gals they rate aren't much better. Here Gwen Lee's the pick of the lot. She at least has some natural gaiety. She contributes something to a party with her wise blonde manner and lightly delivered hard-boiled cracks. Rita La Roy just looks tough, Lucille Williams is another blonde. The star, Evelyn Brent, stalks around menacingly in her tight black suit and frilled blouse, destroying whatever timid bubble the party has succeeded in generating. Once a salesman done her wrong, and so now she broods.

Constance Cummings is the girl from another world, a sweet young innocent who foolishly gets involved in a sordid shooting. A certain dignity she has prevents her role from betraying the absurdity of its conception. She's becomingly dressed in a dark crepe costume with a detachable hood collar of sables and sable bands placed low on its long fitted skirt. Marjorie Peterson, a trusting wife, appears late in the picture and never has a chance because of the long melodramatic speeches she is immediately given.

### Best Dressed German Girl

Through the Deadwood Dick claptrap of the German talker, "Express 13," hovers Charlotte Susa in painstaking replica of her compatriot Marlene Dietrich. Miss Susa first appears in the picture with her back to the audience and remains that way for a bit, to get them guessing. That's good, but you've got to be sure you won't disappoint when turning around.

Anyway, Miss Susa is the best-dressed German film actress to be seen so far. Only one costume, but it fits. A German adaptation of a Vionnet suit, long gently flared skirt, simple hip length jacket buttoning diagonally, and a high upstanding collar of light fur that frames her face flatteringly. It's the fur that tells its German origin, stiff and dull, without the pliability and sheen that the French know how to knock into fur when they work on it.

Fee Malten's costume shows what the German lady of quality wears for train travel, a tailored suit with a man's shirt and four-in-hand tie, topped by a thick crocheted angora beret made feminine with a rhinestone butterfly pin.

## Russian Theatre

(Continued from page 56)

atres are in the provinces. A few are off in places like Magnitogorsk and Dniperstroi, where huge new steel mills and electric stations are going up. Those are not yet cities—merely cities in the process of rising. Tens of thousands of men and women work on the constructions and the Soviet government is anxious to keep them happy and pepped up. It gives them the best it has, including music and theatre.

At the same time smaller provincial theatres are visiting Moscow. There is also the usual summer increase of vaudeville and circus. The Moscow amusement parks, of which there are four or five, have theatres, circuses and music halls right on the lots, in some cases under the open sky.

The best recent offering of the Kamerny Theatre is "Line of Fire," a first play by Nicholas Nikitin, known to Russians through his other literary work. Like all other new Soviet plays, it deals with a phase of the Five-Year Plan, in this case with electrification. It is a melodramatic story of the erection of an electric station and the efforts of Soviet enemies to destroy the work.

Unlike the majority of new plays, "Line of Fire" has at least one character that is not just a symbol, but a fully developed human being. That character is Murka, a homeless tomboy of a girl, who falls in love with the electric station and with the communist who directs its construction. It is she who foils the villains and develops from a little wildcat into a tamed working-woman devoted to the Soviet cause. Her love for the electric station in the end is stronger than her love for the communist. She lets him go off to a new job where he is needed, but herself remains at the old one where she is needed. That's in line with the Soviet idea that the Five-Year Plan comes first and such trifles as private love or emotions of any kind are second or third. And the superb stagecraft of Tairov makes this convincing.

### Best Picture

The outstanding picture of the Soviet season is unquestionably "Road to Life," talker, directed by N. Ekk. Despite his astonishing name (especially astonishing for a Russian, who usually carries a five-syllable label), he has done an impressive piece of work. Unfortunately the sound end of it is about as bad as can be—it sounds like the earliest American experiments in talkers. But the picture end ranks with the best that Russia has ever produced, barring none.

The theme of this picture is one that will interest the outside world tremendously. It deals with those droves of homeless children who some years ago roamed through Russia. Here and there one still sees remnants of this tragic army of homeless waifs, but it is no longer a national problem as then.

"Road to Life" tells the story of how a batch of these dirt-encrusted wild youngsters were turned into upright citizens. The most interesting portions naturally are those which show the life of the homeless children before their reform.

Director Ekk has gotten a maximum of human drama out of the theme. Acting and staging throughout splendid. A leading legit actor, Batalov, takes a leading role.

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# HOLLYWOOD

## and Los Angeles

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Five dancers, three musicians and two cooks took $345 in wage claims against the Pom Pom, West Hollywood night spot, to the labor bureau last week.

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Dozen members of the Broadway Players, troupe that tried a stand under canvas in Culver City, brought a batch of bounced paper to the labor bureau. R. O. Craig, promoter, was ordered to dig up $372 claims or be sued.

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Following assignments made in coast studios last week:

George Barbier, "Stadium," Par.

Ernest Laemmle to direct "Fate," U.

Harold Waldridge, "Sob Sister," Fox.

Stuart Erwin, "Working Girl," Par.

Reginald Owen, "Gallagher," Columbia.

Pierre de Ramey, "Age for Love," UA.

Robert Dudley, "Twenty Grand," Universal.

Ralph Forbes, "Love Bound," Perfection.

Addie McPhail, third Ned Sparks short, Radio.

Don Marquis, added dialog, "Sooky," Par.

Charles D. Brown, "Come on Marines," Par.

Maurine O'Sullivan, untitled Quillan feature, Pathe.

Helen Chandler, femme lead in "Heart and Hand," U.

Margaret Churchill, Greta Nissen, "Ambassador of the U. S.," Fox.

Anthony Coldway and Joseph Franklin Poland to scripts, Pathe.

Ben Lyon, male lead with Marilyn Miller, "Her Majesty, Love," WB.

Benny Rubin, Eddie Gribbon, "Plain Clothes," Pathe short, Ralph Cedar directing.

Maurice O'Sullivan, Roscoe Ates, Belle Bennett, untitled Eddie Quillan, RKO-Pathe.

Dawn O'Day, George MacFarlane, Dorothy Peterson, David Dinard, "Rich Man's Folly," Par.

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KTM comes down off its storage building and steps its studio half a mile west to the Rainbow Gardens ballroom.

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Another song firm moved to Hollywood this week. Remick deserted the Majestic downtown for Warner Bros.' Hollywood building.

# VARIETY BILLS

(Continued from page 44)

## Cabaret Bills

### NEW YORK CITY

**Beaux Arts**
Madeline Randall
Hazel Crosby
Julius Klein
Wilma Cox
Grace Mitchell
Salvatori Orch
**Central P'rk Casino**
Jean Barry
Dave Fitzgibbons
Leo Reisman Orch
**Club Calais**
Jack White
Lillian Barnes
Jackie Maye
Frances Fay
Bernie M'xw'll's Or
**Connie's Inn**
Ada Ward
Joyce Robinson
Louise Cook
Earl Tucker
Dotty Rhodes
Sonny Boy Dudley
Bessie Dudley
Meers & Meers
Willie Jackson
4 Bon Bon Boys
**Cotton Club**
Cora La Redd
Mild'd Washington
Sherman Robinson
Leitha Hall
Berry Bros
Alma Smith
Eddie Rector
Cotton Club Trio
Clarence Robinson
Swan & Lee
Marko Brown
Henri Wessels
4 Step Bros
Bobby Sawyer
Bunny Payne
Norman Attwood
Anise Bayer
Cab Calloway Orch
**El Patio**
Norma Terris
Ramon & Rosita
Emil Coleman Orch
**Hollywood Gardens**
N T G Rev
Abe Lyman Orch
**Oakland's Terrace**
Joe Wallace
Myrna Waverly
Molly O'Dougherty
Helen Davis
Lola Bertram
The Grenadiers
Will Oakland
Lou Spring Orch
**Nut Club**
Eddie Moran
Nutsy Fagan
The Hartman's
Red Davis
Jerry Bergen
Badger & Mueseler
Eton Boys
Dave Abrams Orch
**Paramount Grill**
Jack Osterman
Lois & Jean Sterner
Johnny Condey
Bud & Sis Roberts
Fields & Smith
Doris Merly
Dave Lawrence
Betty Bayne
Racing Hounds
Freedman Orch
**Salon Royal**
Elizabeth Welsh
Kid Sneeze
Harvey White
Opal Cooper
Baby Face
International Orch
**Village Barn**
Luther & Nell
Riley & Comfort
Warren & Davis
Un Josh Medders
Ritz Quartet
Allan Daly
Winegar Orch

### CHICAGO

**Cameo**
Peggy Moore
Sally Osman
Billy Carr
Adele Harris
Sterling & Silver
Vin Conley Orch
**College Inn**
Olive O'Neil
Gene Martin
Bobby Meeker Or
**Colosimos**
Clark & Arnold
Henriques & Peggy
Jeanette Villon
Ann Hammond
Mary Stone
Herbie Vogel
Jimmy Meo Orch
**Dells**
J & E Torrence
Vivian Janis
Benny Meroff Orch
**Frolics**
Kirby & DeGage
Reynolds Sis
Billy Gerber
Pauline Ballou
Harris 2 & Loretta
Ann Geary
Charlie Agnew Or
**Golden Pumpkin**
DeCarlos & Louise
Muriel Barker
Austin Mack Orch
**Lincoln Tavern**
Biltmore 3
Earl Burtnett Orch
**Miralago**
Rick & Synder
Ercelle Sis
Irene George
Al Handler Orch
**Terrace Garden**
C'mine di Giovanni
Hazelle & Klatoff
Clyde McCoy Orch
**Vanity Fair**
Dick Hughes
Billie S Kvale
Mildred Moris
Leo Wolf Orch

## LETTERS

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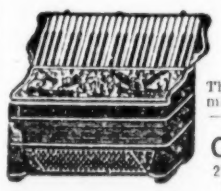
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# Obituary

### ULLRICH HAUPT

Ullrich Haupt, 44, picture actor, was accidentally shot and killed while on a deer hunting trip in the Figueroa Mountains near Santa Maria, Cal.

Haupt came to this country from Germany 10 years ago to direct the German theatre in Chicago. Later he went to New York, where he appeared in several plays for the Theatre Guild. He came to Hollywood in 1928 and has appeared in both English and German versions. His last picture was "The Unholly Garden" (UA).

His wife and 10-year-old son survive.

### T. A. SMITH

T. Arthur Smith, 63, concert impresario and a leading figure in musical circles of Baltimore and Washington, dropped dead while visting here last Monday (3).

Smith was local manager for the Philadelphia Symphony for 20 years and also handled the local engagements of the New York Philharmonic. He brought the German Opera Company to Baltimore for several engagements during the past two years.

### DANNY WHITE

Dancing Danny White, 40, died Aug. 4 in Memorial Hospital, Buffalo, of intestinal trouble.

White had been on the stage many years, appearing mainly in vaude, working with the team of Weston and Neely and Danny and Lew White. For the past eight years he had been doing a single.

A widow (divorced) survives.

Interment in Mt. Hebron cemetery, Long Island.

**SUSSMAN—IDA**

In loving memory of our dear mother, who departed this life Aug. 13, 1925

SUSSMAN CHILDREN

### BEDA SELBERG

Beda Selberg, 17, of the dancing team of Bobby and Beda, died in a Portland, Me., hospital, Aug. 5, following an operation a week previous for appendicitis. She was taken ill while filling an engagement at the Riverside theatre, Bridgton, Me.

With her brother she has appeared in theatres and clubs throughout New England. She also did much solo dancing. Miss Selberg is survived by her father, four brothers and four sisters.

### WILLIAM B. REYNOLDS

William B. Reynolds, executive with Sells-Floto, died at Beaver Lake, N. H., Aug. 3. He was stricken in Peoria, Ill., and taken home.

Mr. Reynolds, prior to his circus activity, was connected with New York legit producing managers.

### LEROY LAMBERT

LeRoy J. Lambert, 24, of Le Van and Lambert, Houston radio team died recently. The blackface act was known as ""Slo' and Ezy."

Interment in Dallas.

**John Reisenweber,** died Sunday morning (Aug. 9), at his home 708 Central avenue, Woodmere, Long Island. Services will be held at his late residence at 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday evening (Aug. 11). Interment will be in the Reisenweber family vault at Greenwood Cemetery on Wednesday, Aug. 12, at 10 a.m.

**Florine Walz Williams,** widow of Earl Williams, actor, committed suicide in San Francisco, Aug. 9, by chloroform. She, her mother and her two children all died. Act due to destitution.

**Aloys Limbach,** 69, authority on sheet music, died in Chicago at the Augustana hospital on Aug. 5.

Limbach was for many years associated with the Clayton F. Summy company in Chicago, and was recognized as an expert in the standard music field.

**Father,** 63, of Linda Alders (pictures), died in Bluefield, W. Va., Aug. 1.

**Mary Bradin** died Aug. 2 at Saranac Lake, where she had been living for four years. She was employed at one time by Mae Woods in the old Keith offices. Her husband, William Willette, survives. Interment at Saranac Lake.

**Edward Landsburg,** 45, chauffeur at Metro studio, died Aug. 1, when overcome by heat while driving Lois Moran and other players to location in Santa Monica canyon.

**Louis A. Howland,** 42, free lance film technician, died of a heart attack Aug. 9 in Hollywood. He is survived by his wife.

## *Easing Into H'ywood*

(Continued from page 2)

man is there to take pictures of me, and I starts posin', but I finds out later that the company has sent him down to make some stills of the ship.

I finds out I'm not due at the studio until Monday, so I decides to get a car and go for a ride and maybe find a house to live in. I gets a book with all the traffic rules in it so's not to get stuck, as I hears that the traffic rules in Hollywood are pretty tough. They even arrests you for mopery here if you goes less than 45 miles per. So I studies all the rules, especially the ones about turning. If you wants to turn to the left you sticks your hand out straight, horizontally, palm down and the third finger crossed over the pinkie. If you decides to turn right you sticks your hand out and up at a degree of 38 degrees, and not 3 degrees either, with the palm up and the fingers spread apart. You gotta watch yourself here, 'cause if you gets hit it don't count as long's you sticks to the rules.

I finally gets located, after much ado, in Santa Monica, that someone tells me is the playground of the elite. I went to a real estate agent and rents a place that he says is only a stone's throw from the beach. Even a golfer couldn't hit a ball that far. The place ain't exactly in Santa Monica; it's just around the corner about six miles as the crow flies. But for ten bucks a month the agent fixes so's I gets a mailing address in Santa Monica, also as the crow flies.

### His First Day

Now I'm settled, and I retires early to be ready for my first day on location under the kleigs. I woulda woke up much refreshed if it hadn't been for guys knockin' on the door from four a.m. on. First came the ice man lookin' for my business, then the milkman, then the laundryman and tailor, and finally a guy who says he can rid the house of roaches in 24 hours at little cost.

I gets to the studio that morning pronto and starts lookin' around the sets to see where I'm workin'. I sees something here that I always wondered about. I never could figger out what becomes of the college football players after they leaves school. They're using 'em in the sound departments at the studios. After they shoots a scene I sees a guy sort crouched down, and all of a sudden he charges forward, shifts to the right, then to the left, right up to the set and shouts, "54,756, taken 5B, print 2, Aark Zu" . . . Those guys didn't waste any time at school.

### Jimmie Finds Out

I finds out I'm workin' in "The New Wallingford," starring William Haines, with Ernest Torrence and Leila Hyams. I gets on set, and they starts rehearsin' the first scene, a scene in a beautiful hotel lobby, and I goes up and asks for my script so's I can learn my lines. But Sam Woods, the director, says "No, Jimmy, you're not in this scene. We use you in the alley scenes to add a little class to them." Then I says to myself, "That's great. I got them where I want 'em."

While they're shootin' the beautiful hotel scene I goes out to the alley unobserved and studies the alley from every angle so they won't catch me napping when they starts shootin' at me there the next day. But they doublecrosses me and goes to a different alley to make the shot and I'm unprepared. "Now," I says to myself, "they got me where they want me."

Well, we takes the rest of the week makin' that one shot in the alley. Why? 'Cause I'm unprepared and the sudden switch confused me.

That's how I spent my first week in Hollywood.

When I finishes tellin' by story to the mugg I says, "What do you think of it? Ain't it worth 20c a word?" And the mugg says, "No, Jimmy, but we'll take it as an advertisement."

I ain't the kinda guy to force my wares on anybody, so I says "Take it or leave it, mugg, take it or leave it."

And so now I'll never know what they mugg did with it, as I left him in discomfort.

## News From the Dailies

(Continued from page 41)

to visit relatives he hasn't seen for 17 years.

Barbara Norman, 24, studio stenographer, is near death from poison swallowed due to ill health.

Don Alvarado, film actor, and his wife, Ann, have separated after eight years of marriage. They have a daughter, six.

County officials blocked attempts of Rex Bell to recover for Clara Bow several thousand dollars worth of clothes and jewels used as exhibits in the theft trial of Daisy De Voe. Claim they cannot be released until after Miss De Voe has completed her appeal from a grand theft conviction.

David and Serge M'divani were defendants in a suit filed by Daniel G. Tomlinson for $250 on a promissory note.

Mrs. Edith M. Shearer filed suit for divorce in Reno from Andrew Shearer on charge of non-support. They are the parents of Norma Shearer.

Mrs. Eric Seabrooke Pinker, mother, and Barbara Bennett, sister of Joan Bennett, who was injured while making a scene for Fox's "She Wanted a Millionaire," arrived here by plane to be with her.

Grant Withers appears as defendant in five damage suits arising from an auto accident on his wedding day in January, 1930.

Woman injured in collision between car driven by Hoot Gibson and that of Mrs. Walter N. Gnewuch. Not serious.

Howard Hughes and Caddo Films were sued by John W. McDermott, scenarist, for $16,250 salary alleged due.

W. L. Guthrie, Warner location manager, faced arrest on an assault charge after assertedly attacking a process server.

Vivian and Rosetta Duncan settled their $10,000 damage suit against J. I. Angus, income tax advisor, who failed to give them an accounting after they advanced that sum.

Edward Ward, composer, filed suit for divorce from Yola D'Avril, film actress, charging infidelity. Married nine months ago.

Bert Roach obtained a divorce from Gladys Roach, charging she stayed out all night.

Elise Di Viane, actress, suing Dashiel Hammett, author, for $36,000 damages, alleging he beat her.

Photoplay Publishing Corp., James R. Quirk, editor, and Cal York, Hollywood correspondent, were named defendants in a $1,000,000 damage suit filed by Mrs. Theresa Rubens, mother of the late Alma Rubens. Claims "Photoplay" printed a "cruel and vicious" article under Cal York's by-line in April about Mrs. Rubens' asserted attempt to "circus" her daughter's funeral.

## CHICAGO

Universal Films last week filed suit for $1,500 against Paul Whiteman for expenses incurred by the band leader while making "King of Jazz" out on the Coast. Claim is that Whiteman during the filming of the flicker ordered 22 blue tux outfits for the orchestra, besides charging a flock of telegrams and food bills.

Claiming that she married on a bet and later discovered her spouse was a beer baron, Mrs. Lynda Gessler, known professionally as Lynda Castanada, filed suit for separate maintenance. Court allowed her temporary alimony of $10 a week pending the final hearing.

# Co. Fair for Soldiers' Field Looks Cold Because Undetermined on State Aid

Chicago, Aug. 10.

Plans for the county fair to be held at Soldiers' Field are being held up pending final notice as whether state aid is coming through or not. Indications at present are that the funds will not be available.

As set up it was to be the first Cook County fair held within the city, dates to be the first two weeks prior to Labor Day, Aug. 22-Sept. 7, the closing day the fair would cooperate with the A.F. of L. which holds its annual celebration in the bowl.

It is, however, sealed that the fair will not take place at Palatine, a few miles out of town, where it has been held previously. If the show goes on at all it'll be at the Field. Figured that many of the citizens of this burg have never seen a fair, and would hand out coin to lamp the genuine article. With the farmers already indicating that money was too tight for them to attend the festival, the Soldiers Field idea was looked upon as the saving move.

## St. Leon Circus Closes

Williamsport, Pa., Aug. 10.

The St. Leon Brothers' European circus after showing locally, closed for the season with the outfit placed in storage in a building here. Poor business is given as the reason for closing.

The four Robinson's elephants were shipped to Terrace park, near Cincinnati.

## F&M Fair Dates

Hollywood, Aug. 10.

Fanchon & Marco's outdoor department has landed contracts for both the Los Angeles County Fair at Pomona, Sept. 15, and the state fair at Sacramento, Sept. 27.

First time the L. A. fair has used free acts.

### FLOTO WIDOW MARRIES

Denver, Aug. 10.

Mrs. Katherine Floto, widow of Otto Floto of Sells-Floto and Denver Post fame, was married to O. P. Skaggs, Denver grocer, Aug. 5 at her home here. Before her marriage to Floto, she was Miss Katherine Kruger of Kansas City and an equestrienne with the Sells-Floto circus.

Skaggs is the head of a grocery chain.

## CIRCUSES

**Al G. Barnes**

Aug. 11, Ishpeming, Mich.; 12, Iron Mountain; 13, Ironwood; 14, Ashland, Wis.; 15, Rhinelander; 16, Antigo; 17, Marshfield; 18, Portage; 19, Stevens-Point; 20, Waupeca; 21, Oshkosh; 22, Sheboygan.

**Hagenbeck-Wallace**

Aug. 11, Cedar Rapids, Ia.; 12, Webster City; 13, Fort Dodge; 14, Iowa Falls; 15, Albert Lea, Minn.; 16, LaCrosse, Wis.; 17, Madison; 18, Watertown; 19, Janesville; 20, Burlington; 21, Racine; 22, Waukeagn, Ill.; 23, Forest Park.

**Mack Hale Bros.**

August 11, Dallas City, Ill.; 12, Bowen; 13, Clayton.

**Ringling-Barnum**

August 8-16, Chicago, Ill.

**Russell Bros.**

August 11, Sterling, Neb.; 12, Auburn; 13, Nebraska City.

**Sells-Sterling**

August 11, Benson, Minn.; 12, Granite Falls; 13, Bird Island; 14, Glencoe.

**Sells-Floto**

August 11, Wenatchee, Wash.; 12, Everett; 13-14, Seattle; 15, Tacoma; 16-17, Portland, Ore.; 18, Salem; 19, Eugene; 20, Klamath Falls; 21, Alturas, Cal.; 22, Reno, Nev.

## CARNIVALS

**(For current week—Aug. 10-15—when not otherwise indicated.)**

All-American: Lebo, Kan.
Anderson-Srader: Holdrege, Neb.
Artdick: Woodstock, Vt., Middlebury, 17-22.
Beckmann & Gerety: Burlington, Ia.
Bee: Ewing, Ky., 17-22.
Bernardi Greater: Cortland, N. Y.; Valleyfield, Que., Can., 17-21.
Bruce: Caledonia, N. Y.
Burdick: Fairfield, Tex.
Butler Bros: Covington, Ind.; Hillsboro, 17-22.
Cetlin & Wilson: Logan, W. Va.
Coe Bros.: Nicholasville, Ky.; Stanford, 17-22.
Dicks Paramount: Sheldon Junction, Vt., 17-22.
Dixie Model: Myersdale, Pa., 17-22.
Edwards: Byesville, O.
Endy: Seabright, N. J.
Foley & Burk: Santa Maria, Cal.
Galler: Fulton, Ky.
Gibbs: Otoe, Neb.
Gibson: Sheridan, Ind.; Cayuga, 17-22.
Glick: Watertown, N. Y.
Gray, Royal: San Saba, Tex.
Gray, Roy: Gladwater, Tex.
Greenburg: Walsenburg, Colo.
Greenland: Burkesville, Ky.
Hansen: Salem, Ind.
Happyland: Milford, Mich.
Heth: Crawfordsville, Ind.; Frankfort, 17-22.
Isler: Burwell, Neb.
Jones: Fort William-Port Arthur, Ont.
Kaus: Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Kearney & Pope: Arthur, Ind.
Ketchum: Tarentum, Pa.
Keystone: California, Pa.
Lang: Elsberry, Mo.
Leggette: Eureka, Kan.
McMahon: Fort Dodge, Ia.
Miller: Fawn Grove, Pa.; Abbottstown, 17-22.
Monarch: Montauk Point, Long Island, N. Y.
Northern Expo: St. Paul, Minn.; St. Croix Falls, Wis., 17-26.
Page: Montgomery, W. Va.; Hinton, 17-22.
Parker: Somerville, Mass.
Reithoffer: Shickshinny, Pa.; Montrose, 17-22.
Roland: Berryville, Va., 13-18.
Royal American: Winnipeg, Man., Can., 10-22.
Rubin & Cherry: Ottawa, Ill.; Plymouth, Wis., 10-22.
Sheesley: Pittsfield, Mass.
Six: Adrian, Mich.
Sparks: Houston, Miss.
South Dakota: Huron, S. D.
Spencer: Fond du Lac, Pa.
Sproul: Mendota, Ill.
Steffen: Monte Rio, Cal.
Tidwell: Lenox, Ean.
Wade: Dowagiac, Mich.
West: Boone, Ia.
Wolfe: Nantucket, Ia.
World of Fun: Tarentum, Pa.

# IN DEBT, 101 STRANDS IN WASH.

Washington, Aug. 10.

Stranding of the 101 Ranch Wild West Show here last week left 425 men and women wondering how to get back to their homes in Texas, Oklahoma, Wyoming and Montana.

The Washington engagement was the climax of a long wrestle with the heat, the temperature under the tent rolling up to as high as 113 degrees in some places, it is said. Some of the people with the show have not been paid off in eight weeks. Luckiest of them are five weeks behind in their pay. A cook tent with the outfit was ordered kept operating as long as the food supply lasted, after local merchants refused to furnish further supplies except for cash.

Two weeks' pay all round was offered everybody with the show to call it quits, but after a meeting of the troupe it was decided to hold out for everything due.

Jack Brown, head cowboy with the outfit appealed to the American Legion for assistance and the Legion quickly responded. Some money was raised by two benefit performances under auspices of all Washington Posts of the American Legion, with the National Press Club Post—newspapermen all—handling the publicity. The idea was to raise railroad fare to take all performers back home.

### Attachment

For weeks creditors have been on the trail of the 101 Ranch, with the showdown arriving in Washington. One of the creditors was the Louisville Color Gravure Co., which furnished advertising posters. This company obtained an attachment for $1,289.67 here, and a dozen deputy marshals attended the last show with copies of the attachment. After a conference among lawyers, however, it was decided not to serve the writ, the 101 Ranch assigning all its assets to a board of trustees. Any money realized will be used in paying taxes and license fees, back salaries of employees, and, after that, if any money is left, the shipment of live stock back to Marland, Okla., to the 101 Ranch.

The 101 Ranch carries 91 head of saddle horses, beside 48 head of work horses. There are also five elephants (trained), four buffaloes and 15 steers.

## NO GOOD FOR GAMBLING

Paris, Aug. 10.

Fact that the resort season has been such a flop this summer has caused the gambling casinos to ask the government for a break. They want the officials to extend a moratorium on one-third of the current 75% gambling profit tax.

Frank Gould's Mediterranean Casino, in Nice, will probably close if the request is refused.

Business in all the Channel and Atlantic resorts continues to be highly panicky.

Hollywood, Aug. 8

To Whom It May Concern:

I have just returned from a projection room on the United Artists lot where I witnessed what in my humble opinion is not only the greatest talking picture but the greatest screen story of all times.

I'll admit I'm not a hard-boiled egg, but having been connected with the theatre for 20 years does not make me a "softie". And yet, I cried and cried and laughed, and when the final fadeout came I was speechless.

I am dictating this message an hour after seeing "Street Scene", and it is only now, that words come to me.

Samuel Goldwyn, if you never produce another picture as long as you live, you can rest on your laurels. You may well be proud of "Street Scene".

King Vidor, in your direction of "Street Scene", you have reached not only the peak of your career, but your name will go down with the immortals in the screen's Hall of Fame

Elmer Rice, how can you ever top "Street Scene"? No author in the world could have written this slice of New York life but you. It's sheer genius.

To mention any individual in the cast would be unfair to the rest of the players. There has never been a greater aggregation of artists anywhere at any time, stage or screen.

This is the first time in my life that I have actually paid for an advertisement boosting something which does not belong to me. I must be enthusiastic--I am.

Watch for "Street Scene", see it, and if it doesn't tear at your heart and bring a lump to your throat, I will refund your money.

Sincerely,

Eddie Cantor